Daily Report

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Hungary, Romania, Greece React to Sanctions

AU2904160893 Paris AFP in English 1551 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Sofia, April 29 (AFP)—Bulgaria is to appeal to the U.N. for compensation to help offset the 2.5 billion dollar cost of implementing sanctions against Yugoslavia, the Bulgarian foreign ministry said Thursday.

Hungary and Romania, who together put their losses at up to 3.5 billion dollars, have joined the call for compensation.

All three states say they are ready to enforce the tough new sanctions which came into effect Tuesday, but point to the heavy price of international solidarity.

Bulgarian Prime Minister Luben Berov warned Wednesday that "sanctions could prove to be catastrophic in terms of trade relations with central and western Europe."

Hungary has put its losses so far at 500 million dollars while Romania says it has lost between two and three billion dollars by enforcing sanctions. Both want financial compensation.

Greek Foreign Minister Michael Papaconstantinou, who says sanctions enforcement has cost Greece 2.6 billion dollars since last year, said Thursday that "Greece will comply with U.N. sanctions, but demands that it (the U.N.) should take into account the fact that (Greece) will pay a heavier price than Yugoslavia."

U.N. Security Council resolution 820 bans all trade with Yugoslavia and passage of freight, and calls for the freezing of Serbia's and Montenegro's foreign assets.

Shipping freighters on the Danube had previously been able to bypass the original U.N. embargo imposed in May 1992 by claiming they were transiting through the region and registering a false final destination.

Sofia is calling on the U.N. Sanctions Committee to outline concrete proposals for reparations, the ministry said.

Bulgaria is becoming completely isolated from its traditional trading partners in central and eastern Europe because of the blocade, the Foreign Ministry statement said.

Bulgaria called on the U.N. Security Council, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Community, to take into account Bulgaria's special problems in implementing the sanctions.

It wants the U.N. to reconsider the total ban on passage of freight to enable trade not destined for Serbia or Montenegro to flow between river states.

However, Bulgaria is not optimistic that the U.N. body will hear its plea. "I do not think that Bulgaria will win compensation," Berov said recently.

Viorel Stefan, director of Romania's state shipping company Navrom Galatz, said sanctions against Yugoslavia could paralyse half his fleet.

Shipping on the Danube has also been hampered by the Serb imposition of "taxes" of between 12,000 dollars and 15,000 dollars a boat, making shipment of freight extremely expensive.

Meanwhile Greece will not take part in allied naval operations enforcing resolution 820, a Greek official said Thursday.

Speaking on condition of anonymity he said the Greek ship Koundouriotis, currently taking part in surveillance of sanctions-busting in the Adriatic Sea, would "continue the usual naval checks, without entering Yugoslav territorial waters."

Greece, a traditional ally of the Orthodox Christian Serbs, pulled out of a meeting in Brussels Wednesday in which implementation of Resolution 820 was discussed.

Ministers Discuss Support for Former East Bloc

AU2704130493 Prague CTK in English 1434 GMT 25 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo April 25 (CTK)—A two-day conference of economics ministers from 15 Western and Eastern European states on cooperation in the transition of former Soviet bloc countries from central planning to market economies ended here today.

A communique from the second East-West ministerial conference underlined the importance of the private sector in the process of economic transformation.

Ministers from eight Eastern and Central European countries (Belarus, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Poland, Russia, Slovenia and Ukraine) stressed the necessity to improve conditions for foreign investment in their countries.

Ministers of the G-7 group of industrial countries (Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States) said they would do their utmost to make it easier for products from former east bloc countries to have access to their markets.

The Czech Republic was represented by Economics Minister Karel Dyba who said in his speech that political and macro-economic stability, adoption of necessary laws, and fast privatisation are the main prerequisites for successful economic development in post-communist countries.

Dyba said that a considerable part of the Czech Republic's national income is created in the area of foreign trade and therefore free access to world markets is of great importance for the Czech Republic. He also said he was convinced that the current protectionist trends (on the part of the West) are merely a temporary phenomenon.

The next ministerial economic conference will take place in Poland.

Zhulali Offers Bases to NATO

AU2904173693 Tirana ATA in English 0829 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tirana, April 29 (ATA)—At the invitation of the Albanian Minister of Defence Mr. Safet Zhulali, a military delegation of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia led by the Minister of Defence Dr. Vlado Popovski arrived for a visit in Albania.

In the meeting this military delegation had with the Albanian Minister of Defence Safet Zhulali, the latter said that "Albania has, time ago, demanded the recognition of the sovereignty of Macedonia. We have made our contribution to this direction, therefore we are glad for the recognition of your state by the United Nations."

"We," he continued, "consider the recognition of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as an element of stability in the Balkans. In general, he said, relations between our states have been good. This is also underlined by the fact that some days ago the Albanian Government declared that it recognizes the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In the context of these relations, the Albanian people demand from the Macedonian state to respect the rights and freedoms of the Albanians living there, they serve the stability there."

"The Albanians living there should take part actively in governing the country," Mr. Zhulali said. Then, he presented the difficult situation in the region, especially in Kosova.

"By provoking successive incidents," he said, "the Serbs want that both we and the Albanians in Kosova react, so that they may realize then a massacre." Regarding the violent ethnic cleansing of Kosova, Mr. Zhulali said that "if the Serbian Government will try to realise this, we shall react as a nation. If such a thing happens, there is no doubt that it will mark the beginning of a Balkan war. President Clinton and the NATO Secretary General Woerner have supported our stand regarding these questions."

Mr. Zhulali also said that in case of extension of the conflict, Albania has voiced its readiness to put at the disposal of NATO its sea and air bases and means.

Concerning the incidents in the Albanian-Macedonian border, the Albanian minister of defence said that "through a fruitful cooperation, they should be eliminated. This may be also attained through lifting or lowering the unreasonable taxes placed for the Albanian nationals who want to go to Macedonia."

The Macedonian Minister of Defence Dr. Vlado Popovski said that "I am confident that Albania will help Macedonia for its membership in the CSCE and integration of its army in the NATO." In regard to the freedoms and rights of the Albanians in Macedonia, Mr. Popovski said that efforts are being made to guarantee the Albanians the same rights as the Macedonians.

Recently, Mr. Popovski said, an ever greater number of Albanians is taking part in governing the country. In the future, too, he said, we have planned a considerable increase of the number of Albanian officers in the lead of our army. As for the incidents in the border, we have ordered that the border soldiers should not use their arm unless their life is in danger. Regarding the situation in the Balkans, he said that he supports the stands of the Albanian party, considering them very fruitful and useful also for the former Yugosla Republic of Macedonia.

Mr. Malasi Meets With Dr. Vlado Popovski [subhead]

The minister of defence of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Dr. Vlado Popovski met on April 28 with the vice chairman of the Presidency of the People's Assembly, Tomorr Malasi. During the talk, they exchanged opinions on the need of cooperation between the two countries and the consolidation of bilateral relations. The extreme nationalism, he said, is an atavistic primitiveness, which led to the tragic events of Bosnia-Herzegovina. We are constructing a democratic state, Mr. Malasi said, on the basis of all international demands and norms and ask that all our neighbours be such. This will be a sound basis for good neighbourliness.

Mr. Popovski said that we appreciate that Albania is a factor of stability. Through joint efforts we should prevent the spread of the flames of war from Bosnia to the south. We hope, he said, the visas for the nationals of our two countries be lifted.

Mr. Malasi said that "I wish the new Macedonian state be really a democratic state, where human and national rights be observed and our relations strengthened further to the benefit of our two peoples and countries.

Legislation To Enforce Sanctions Completed

AU2904193593 Tirana ATA in English 1034 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tirana, April 29 (ATA)—The Resolution No. 820 of the UN Security Council, which was approved on April 17, formally came to force on April 26, 1993. It is another step in a series of the previous Security Council resolutions, aiming at further strengthening political, economic, and military sanctions against the Yugoslav Federation (Serbia and Montenegro) as well as against the Serbs of Bosnia. Through this resolution the international community intensifies international pressure against Belgrade and the Serbs of Bosnia to force them put an end to the war and bloody aggression in the independent Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina as soon as possible and prevent a further spillover of the conflict.

The Resolution No. 820 envisages further escalation of all sanctions decided earlier by the Security Council which, among other things, intend the suspension of all transportation in areas controlled by the Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina, besides those with humanitarian purpose and carried out by permission of the Governments of

Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, the strict suspension of all transportation of goods and cargoes with another destination but which are deviated to the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), suspends all Yugoslav water transportation through Danube, besides cases when the UN Commission gives special permission for this purpose and decides the suspension of all financial activities and funds of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in other states, allowing no profit from these funds by any Yugoslav economic, trade, or social subject.

It decides the halting of transportation of goods and products through land or sea, border crossings, and restricts the transition of goods to the territory of this republic, asking the neighbours to prevent any such crossing.

The Government of the Republic of Albania powerfully endorsed the latest resolution of the UN Security Council, joining the whole international community, which demands that an end be put to the Serb war and aggression in Bosnia-Herzegovina and to the danger it presents for peace and security in the region. The government has completed legislation conform the Resolution No. 820 and has instructed all the respective ministries and institutions to adopt the necessary measures so that its provisions be applied in practice by all the juridical and physical subjects acting in the territory of the Republic of Albania.

Berisha Receives Political Leaders From Kosovo

AU2904193693 Tirana ATA in English 0836 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tirana, April 29 (ATA)—Sali Berisha, president of the Republic of Albania, met with the delegation of the Albanian Christian Democratic Party of Kosova made up of Lazer Krasniqi, chairman; Luigj Serreci, deputy chairman; Shefki Gashi and Nuhi Bytyci, members of the presidency; and the representatives of this party in Germany, with Gjon Markaj as chairman. On this occasion, President Berisha briefed on the attempts of the state organs and the Albanian diplomacy to realize the undeniable right of the Albanian people in Kosova and in their ethnic territories in former Yugoslavia for self-determination. They persisted in coordinating the diplomatic activities throughout the Albanian territory. Lazer Krasniqi promised to hold the meeting of all the Albanian parliamentary parties with the aim of coordinating better the political activities on national scale, the Albanian Christian Democratic Party Information Center reports.

Ministry Organizes Agricultural Seminar

AU2904193493 Tirana ATA in English 1015 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tirana, April 29 (ATA)—On April 28 a seminar was organised in Tirana by the Ministry of Agriculture and Nutrition in cooperation with the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] and FAO's [Food and Agriculture Organization] consultant representatives at this institution. This seminar was part of the three party cooperation project with funds by the Italian government, FAO, and the Albanian party. The project is worth three million dollars and has as an objective to enlarge the leading capacities in the institution.

The seminar under the topic "The UN System, the Agencies Acting in the UN Context, and Their Activities in Albania in the Field of Agriculture" through the explanations by Mr. Marshall, resident representative of UNDP in Albania, succeeded in making clear the procedural modalities, ways and schedules to demand and obtain aid for development, especially in the field of agriculture, currently a priority branch in the Albanian economy, the relations among the donating parties, executers of the aid and the Albanian party as its demander.

Assembly Declares Support for UN Resolution

AU2904200293 Sofia BTA in English 1937 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Sofia, April 29 (BTA)—At the second of two private sittings, held on April 29 and 30, Bulgaria's parliament today voted the following declaration in connection with UN Security Council Resolution 820:

"UN Security Council Resolution 820 creates a new situation for the crisis in the former Yugoslavia. The imposition of a total embargo against Serbia and Montenegro is a decisive step towards the enforcement of the Security Council resolutions.

"Being an active UN member, Bulgaria supports the world body's peacemaking role and efforts towards achievement of peace in the former Yugoslavia. Guided by its responsibility to the lofty principles of the organization, irrespective of the excessive difficulties with which the embargo confronts it, Bulgaria will support the sanctions imposed by Resolution 820 and will fulfil its duty.

"Owing to Bulgaria's geographical location, the total isolation of Serbia and Montenegro will result in Bulgaria's isolation from its West European economic partners with the ensuing severe losses for the Bulgarian economy. This impedes the successful progress of reforms in Bulgaria and its transition to a market economy. Therefore, the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria expects that the international community and, in particular, the United Nations Organization and its Sanctions Committee, will fulfil their obligations to Bulgaria arising from Article 50 of the UN Charter.

"In this complicated situation, the National Assembly reaffirms the position which has been invariably maintained so far, of noninvolvement of the Republic of Bulgaria in military operations in the former Yugoslavia of any form whatsoever: either direct or indirect, including such under UN auspices.

"The National Assembly calls on the rest of the Balkan countries to adopt this position."

Sofia Agrarians Protest Amendments to Land Act

AU2904195193 Sofia BTA in English 1555 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Sofia, April 29 (BTA)—More than 52,000 Sofianites have so far signed the petition of the "Town of Honour" protesters in the centre of the capital city. The tent city was pitched a couple of weeks ago by supporters of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party behind the former Georgi Dimitrov Mausoleum. Not far from here, three years ago there stood the tents of the "Town of Truth," whose inhabitants pressed for the resignation of the then President Petur Mladenov, for democratic elections and a replacement of the system in Bulgaria. Some "Town of Honour" campers participated in the "Town of Truth."

The Agrarians' protests were prompted by apprehensions that the Agricultural Land Tenure Act may be amended in a way that will hamper land restitution.

The Agrarians want land to be restituted in physical rather than notional boundaries, that plans for Land Act amendments be dropped from parliament's law-making programme, and that the incumbent government of Lyuben Berov resign and early elections be held. The demands are summarized in an address which has been submitted to the National Assembly and will be presented to the Office of the President and the Council of Ministers today.

Besides, the Agrarians press for the passage of a forestry act (restoring woodlands to their original owners), an act on soft farm credits, an act on farm production improvement and protection of field estates, and for preferential treatment in light industry privatization.

For its part, the Union of Democratic Forces today held a rally and procession in defence of the Land Act. The Union of Landowners and Craftsmen also supports the Agrarians. A nationwide sign-in has been launched in support of their demands. No representative of the state institutions has visited the "Town of Honour" so far, its inhabitants told the press.

Agriculture Minister Georgi Tanev recently made a strongly worded statement against the "Town of Honour." He said that the Land Act is reality and that it will be strictly observed. "No one has ever said that land will not be restituted in physical boundaries," Mr. Tanev stressed, arguing that there is simply no reason for such protests. The protesters, however, are not happy with the progress of land reform, with as little as 18.4 percent of the land subject to restitution having reverted to owners in more than eight months. They see statements by the prime minister and cabinet members as grounds to assume that the physical land restitution will be superseded by restitution within "notional boundaries" and establishment of quasi-cooperatives. The protesting Agrarians are adamant: "We will stay here until our demands are met."

UN Experts Arrive To Check Drug Situation

AU2904135693 Sofia BTA in English 1232 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Sofia, April 29 (BTA)—Two representatives of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs and one of the UN International Drug Control Programme arrived here to inquire into the situation with psychotropic substances in Bulgaria.

The decision for this mission was taken in November last year at the 53rd session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna where it was observed that the Bulgarian authorities have problems with narcotic drugs. Mrs. Aleksandrina Nencheva, head of the National Narcotics Service with the Ministry of Health Care, told DUMA.

Over the past years Bulgaria turned from a country through which the drugs traffic passed into a country in which drugs are produced. According to unofficial data, drugs addicts in Bulgaria already exceed 18,000.

The Central Service for Organized Crime Control has already discovered several laboratories producing heroin in Bulgaria but it is unknown whether legal proceedings have started, Mrs. Nencheva claims.

According to reliable information, on November 1, 1992 the Armed Forces Prosecutor General's Office abandoned the "Captagon" case under the pretext that Captagon is not a narcotic and therefore there is no crime, according to DUMA. Similar information was recently revealed by STANDART NEWS, which dwelled in detail on the production of amphetamine in Bulgaria.

Investigation into the Captagon case started in 1990. During the investigation 400 kg of foil rolls with the inscription Captagon, 399 kg of Captagon powder, 829 kg of Captagon pills and 829,775 packs with Captagon, each containing 10 pills, were confiscated from different Bulgarian pharmaceutical plants as material evidence. More than 50 people were charged.

The investigation started in 1990 after a note was received from the United Nations. The note was in connection with a detained ship loaded at the Yugoslav port of Bar and carrying a large amount of medicine for Lebanon inscribed as Vitamin E and produced in Bulgaria. Among the real vitamins there were found 2.3 million pills of Captagon.

Till 1982-1983 amphetamine was imported in Bulgaria in the respective quotas and in compliance with the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances and was used in other productions. Captagon appeared in Bulgaria at about the same time (its other name is Phenytilin), a product of the German Degussa Company. A laboratory with the medical academy in Sofia developed a technology for the production of Phenytilin. Though the new preparation was identical with Captagon it was registered by the State Institute for Control Over Medicinal Substances under the trade mark Biocapton.

Thus in the early eighties Bulgaria started an undeclared production of amphetamine. It was used in the production of Acetysal CO—aspirin with amphetamine, earmarked for export to the countries of the southwest Asia and south Africa. The official falsification of Captagon for export to the Middle East and Lebanon in particular started. This export was realized directly from the port of Burgas (on the Black Sea) or from ports of the former Yugoslavia.

Several Bulgarian pharmaceutical plants were engaged in this production. Psychotonic substances were produced in quantities exceeding the needs of the home market. Their export brought considerable foreign exchange incomes. Illegal trade continued till the mid-eighties when at one of the sessions of the UN Commission of Narcotic Drugs the representative of Nigeria—Dr. Filip Emafo, accused Bulgaria of an amphetamine aggression in the countries of southern Africa. At that time Bulgaria ranked third in the world in the production and export of Captagon.

Kozloduy Extends Nuclear Fuel Waste Depot

AU3004093093 Sofia BTA in English 1953 GMT 29 Apr 93

["Today"—BTA lead]

[Excerpts] Sofia, April 29 (BTA)—A press release of the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry informs that Bulgaria was mentioned as one of the countries incurring most serious losses in result of the embargo on Serbia and Montenegro in a special document of the three-day meeting of the CSCE Committee of Senior Officials which ended in Prague last night. [passage omitted]

France's Ambassador to Bulgaria Jacques Rummelhardt visited the National Assembly and talked with its chairman Aleksandur Yordanov. Mr. Yordanov informed the French diplomat that the National Assembly was going to decide whether to come out with a special declaration on the developments in the former Yugoslavia and on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 820 at a closed sitting today. The National Assembly chairman stressed that as Bulgaria's economic losses arising in connection with the observance of the embargo could lead to a political instability in the country, the Bulgarian Parliament should raise the question of compensations in principle. He confirmed Bulgaria's new position that the conflict should be settled peacefully, the ways for the achievement of which could been seen in the Balkan countries' increased diplomatic activities. Mr. Rummelhardt said that Bulgaria and France share similar positions on the problem, adding that his country sees prospects for resolving the Yugo-conflict in the continuation of peace talks. Ambassador Rummelhardt presented a gift of books provided by the French MP's.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Social Affairs Evgeni Matinchev received Jan Soderbert, a representative of the G-24 coordination group set up in Brussels for contacts with the countries in central and Eastern Europe. Mr. Soderbert heads a team on the problems of social security and the labour market. The two sides considered the need of a meeting on the Bulgarian social security and its labour market. Mr. Matinchev familiarized his guest with the condition of social security, social assistance, employment and unemployment in Bulgaria and the government's strategy pursued in this field.

The 1000-Megawatt Unit 5 of the nuclear power plant at Kozloduy has been stopped for planned 70-day repairs coordinated in advance with the Power Engineering Committee, the BTA local correspondent reported. The work on extending the depot for spent nuclear fuel beneath the reactor area of Unit 5 has also begun. The repair works will provide a temporary solution to the

problem of storing spent nuclear fuel until a nuclear waste processing plant is built, the correspondent said.

Neither parliament nor Prof. Lyuben Berov's cabinet are insured against criticism by the Alternative Social Liberal Party (ASP), despite the party's active participation in parliament and the cabinet, ASP leader Prof. Nikolay Vasilev told a press conference today. In his opinion, though Prof. Berov's cabinet makes a lot of efforts, its performance is inefficient. The ASP may revise its attitude to parliament because it has not been really working for several months, and "the ASP does not fear its disintegration nor early elections," the press conference learned.

The leadership of the extraparliamentary Constitutional Forum will be changed and rejuvenated at the congress in May, its leader Prof. Nikolay Genchev told journalists today. The Constitutional Forum will join the Liberal Conservative Union, a new political force whose establishment is forthcoming.

A conflict was stirred up in parliament today when the floor leader of the Socialist parliamentary group, Nora Ananieva, moved for the National Assembly reacting to the address of the Russian Parliament which expressed regret over the Sofia City Council's intention to dismantle the Soviet Army Monument in the centre of the city and called for a civilized settlement of the problem. The Socialists' motion was voted down. Mrs. Ananieva tried to read the address but in result of the MPs' strong and disorderly reaction the sitting was adjourned. Later on, speaking on behalf of the parliamentary group of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS), its leader Stefan Savov objected the attempt of the MP's affiliated to the Bulgarian Socialist, formerly Communist, Party, which had closely bound Bulgaria to the ex-Soviet Union, to read the address of a foreign parliament pointing out that only the Presidium of the National Assembly was entitled to do so.

Today the National Assembly ratified the governmental agreement between Bulgaria and Japan on rescheduling the Bulgarian foreign debt signed on the basis of the multilateral agreement reached within the framework of the Paris Club.

In a statement for BTA today, the spokeswoman for the Prosecutor General's Office denied that Minister of Agriculture Georgi Tanev had presented to the Prosecutor General's Office facts and documents evidencing the damages caused to agriculture by the government chaired by SDS leader Filip Dimitrov (1991-1992). Minister Tanev had made a statement in parliament to this effect. The Prosecutor General's Office has not received such data except a memo which does not contain any incriminating evidence, she said. [passage omitted]

The leaders of the New Bulgaria Party (an exponent of private business interests), the Liberals Party, the Constitutional Forum, the Women's' Christian Movement, and the Zora Political Group stated today that in their opinion it was necessary to form a new political force orientated to the right.

The regional commission for management of natural disasters and major industrial accidents in the town of Montana, northwestern Bulgaria, considered the condition of the hydrotechnical equipment and the readiness to act should the Danube spill over its banks. Given the high water of the Danube in spring, this problem may arise and be further complicated in result of the developments in the former Yugoslavia as there is the potential danger of an uncontrollable spillover from the Iron Gates hydrotechnical complex. [passage omitted]

Today the traffic through the border checkpoint at the bridge over the Danube was normal. There were almost no TIR [International Road Transport] trucks waiting to cross the Bulgarian-Romanian border in Bulgarian territory. According to witnesses' accounts, the line of vehicles waiting to enter Bulgaria at Giurgiu is already 10 or 12 km long, which shows that the traffic coming from Hungary is directed to Ruse.

Government Approves UN Sanctions Against FRY

LD2904223393 Prague CTK in English 2148 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Prague April 29 (CTK)—The Czech Government today approved application of sanctions against Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) under U.N. Security Council Resolution No. 820 which entered into force on Monday.

At a session attended by Czech President Vaclav Havel the government members were ordered to ensure the application of the sanctions and observance of the provisions set by the U.N. resolution.

Skalicky: Slovakia Wants Time in P operty Dispute

LD2904154893 Prague CTK in English 1438 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Prague April 29 (CTK)—In the current Czech-Slovak dispute over division of the former federal property, Slovakia obviously wants to gain time, Czech Privatisation Minister Jiri Skalicky told a press conference in Prague today.

Reacting to Slovakia's unilateral rescinding today's scheduled talks on property division, Skalicky suggested that shares in Czech enterprises be speedily distributed to Czech investors in order to get rid of the current pressure and gain space for further negotiations with the Slovaks, if they are interested, Skalicky said.

The shares could be distributed according to the shareholders' domicile and thus be given to all Czechs and Slovaks living in the Czech Republic, Skalicky proposed. Czech citizens living in Slovakia would obtain the shares on their request, he added.

Slovak investors' maximum stake in some Czech enterprises is 30 per cent. However, they would need at least 34 per cent to be able to block decision-making, Skalicky noted.

Czech and Slovak premiers, Vaclav Klaus and Vladimir Meciar, are to discuss the issue face-to-face on Friday.

Klaus Condemns Havel Support for Intervention

AU3004082093 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Apr 93 p 2

["po"-signed report: "Klaus Criticizes President's Statement"]

[Text] Prague—"I do not believe that we should be the ones to lead some military interventions," Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus said on Monday's [26 April] "Denik Plus" television program. This was his comment on the issue of the solution to the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina, one possibility of which, Czech President Vaclav Havel—as he observed during his sojourn in the United States—sees is a military intervention. "I believe, first, that we still have enough of our own problems and, second, it seems difficult to me to recommend for someone else—but not to oneself—a military intervention. I am of the opinion that this issue is not the most pressing objective for the Czech Republic at this time, and we should discuss it further. In the very near future—certainly before the end of the week—I want to organize a meeting on this issue with a select group of cabinet ministers and the president," Klaus added.

Three Parliament Members Visit U.S.

LD3004081893 Prague CTK in English 0726 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Washington April 30 (CTK correspondent)—Three Czech parliamentary deputies who are on a visit to the U.S. met members of the U.S. Congress last night to discuss questions of technical assistance to the Czech Parliament, Vice-Chairman of the Czech Parliament Jiri Vlach told CTK today.

Talks between U.S. House of Representatives member Douglas Bereuter and Vlach, concerned the role of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and other financial institutions in the Czech Republic.

The EBRD is somewhat too remote, according to Vlach, from what is happening in central Europe, and it is over-cautious in its investment policy. Vlach also explained to Bereuter the ways in which Czechs want to align with West European structures.

Czech deputies also said they were interested in cooperation within the Visegrad group (comprising the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Hungary) framework but spoke against its becoming official in any way.

U.S. representative Martin Frost pledged technical assistance to the Czech Parliament in the form of software and training of personnel. A group of U.S. congressmen is coming to Prague in two weeks' time.

No mention was made, during the talks, of hardware and software received by the former Czechoslovak Federal Parliament from the U.S. Congress after the collapse of the communist regime but, according to Vlach, an insensitive solution of this matter might jeopardise future help from the U.S. Congress.

During his stay in the U.S., Vlach also met Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and a group of Czech Americans from Chicago.

Meciar, Klaus To Meet in Brno 30 Apr

LD2904214593 Prague CTK in English 2029 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bratislava April 29 (CTK)—Czech and Slovak Premiers, Vaclav Klaus and Vladimir Meciar, will meet in the Tugendhadt Villa in Brno at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, head of the Slovak Premier's Secretariat Anna Nagyova confirmed to CTK today.

She said that the meeting was originally to take place at Zidlochovice, South Moravia, but at the wish of Premier Klaus the venue of the meeting has been changed.

The meeting was initiated by Klaus after Slovakia's rejection to participate in another round of Czech-Slovak talks on dividing the property of the former Czechoslovak Federation, originally scheduled to take place today.

Slovak Finance Minister Julius Toth told journalists today that unless agreement was reached on using the former federal resources in favour of the Czech and Slovak Republics, Slovakia would demand an audit from an international organisation.

Meciar Previews Upcoming Talks

LD3004140593 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted]

[Announcer] Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar gave the following details on his upcoming meeting with Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus to correspondent Zuzana Stukovska this morning. [passage omitted]

[Stukovska] Mr. Prime Minister, what are your expectations from the meeting with Czech Prime Minister Klaus? Do you believe that the meeting could bring more love and understanding into Czech and Slovak relations?

[Meciar] I would be very glad if it did; if hysteria, suspicion, and spite left we could return to normal work. Someone in the Czech lands has come up with the idea that Slovaks do not wish to talk. Then they started behaving as if they had to act in defense of Czech interests, when in fact they are against them.

The hysteria has prompted comparisons of the incomparable. We have declared the property of Slovak coupon privatization shareholders private, and as such it could not be requisitioned to settle state claims. This has been agreed, and what's more it has been agreed twice. I have no idea why it is being put in doubt.

The next issue is the payments for gas. The payments are indeed being made—except they are made to Czech and not Slovak banks. We find this regrettable.

We have agreed to divide the gold. Documents have been signed, and the gold has not come. We have agreed on the division of property of the interior and former Federal Defense Ministries, and with the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The deadline for the latter is end of May which has not yet passed. We have agreed how to divide intellectual property. It is inconceivable that someone should without a good reason refuse to release assets which belong to us by agreement.

The issue of how mutual payments are interpreted is also one that has been pushed to the brink of mutual understanding, it is just for our foreign trade companies to export goods and for reimbursements to remain in the Czech Republic as hard currency, only to be exchanged into korunas and arrive in Slovakia effectively devalued as far as future convertibility and hard-currency worth go.

What also worries us is mutual trade, and the efforts to introduce border controls on crossings. The Ministry of the Interior has not gotten involved, so now there are attempts to act through the foreign ministry. There are people in Slovakia, too, who go along with that a bit.

It is therefore necessary to acknowledge that there are problems. They have to be resolved for the sake of good coexistence.

[Stukovska] What is the main objective of your meeting in Brno tonight?

[Meciar] All complex issues have been resolved through talks with Prime Minister Klaus. He is for me the guarantee of stability and of staying the course which we embarked on in 1992, which should have brought Czechs and Slovaks together on new principles. These days, some are convinced that Slovaks must be punished. I can't imagine for what. The division is a matter of two consenting sides.

As for the newly emerging trends, such as that it is necessary to wait until a different, more forthcoming government is in power in Slovakia and so on—they have been very loud amindst all the propaganda. If, however, they come from any member of the Czech Cabinet, they become interference in another state's affairs. Plenty of problems have accumulated. We have to sort through them and find solutions. [passage omitted]

Contradictions Found by Property Commission

LD2904221493 Prague CTK in English 2104 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bratislava April 29 (CTK)—Slovak members of the Commission for Dividing the Property of the Former Czechoslovakia, have disclosed serious contradictions in some agreements now ready to be signed, Slovak Finance Minister Julius Toth said today.

He was speaking after a session of the commission's Slovak members, which took place instead of the originally planned joint Czech-Slovak meeting.

Asked if he agreed that the Slovak debt to the Czech Republic was 24.7 billion crowns (880 million USD),

Toth answered that the financial obligations following from the Czech-Slovak agreement would not be challenged by Slovakia. However, Slovakia's further participation in the (property division) talks is conditioned by the Czechs non-challenging the agreements and property transfers already signed.

Law Amended To Prevent Hard Currency Outflow

AU2904153293 Bratislava REPUBLIKA in Slovak 27 Apr 93 pp 1, 2

[TA SR report: "Kucera Stays On; The Government Passed"]

[Excerpts] Bratislava—[passage omitted] At its 18th meeting in Bratislava yesterday the National Council of the Slovak Republic [NRSR] approved an NRSR bill that changes and amends Foreign Exchange Law No. 528 of 1990.

The Foreign Exchange Law amendment responds to disputed issues between the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic as a result of a different interpretation of the payments agreement between the two republics (signed on 4 February 1993—TA SR note). On the basis of this treaty, the two sides undertook to pay for the re-export of goods and services to third countries in freely convertible currencies. However, the relevant article of the agreement does not address the problem of payment for goods and services exported to third countries.

In view of the fact that the contracting party in the Czech Republic did not agree to a change in the article in question, the Slovak Republic decided to tackle the issue by means of amending the foreign exchange law. The amendment makes it incumbent upon all legal entities resident in the Slovak Republic to ensure that, in the event of the export of their goods and services through a foreign exchange enterprise or another organization residing in the Czech Republic, payments be transferred directly to the Slovak Republic in foreign currency, instead of being transferred to the account of a nonresident alien in the Czech Republic.

Based on this legal change, it will be necessary to prepare changes in the Payments Agreement Between the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic to make the payments agreement conform with the legal system in the Slovak Republic. [passage omitted]

In accordance with Slovak National Council Law No. 253 of 1991 on the National Property Fund (FNM), Slovak parliament deputies yesterday also considered candidacy for the fund's supreme body—the FNM Presidium. Under the law, the office of president of the FNM Presidium is executed by the minister for the administration and privatization of national property, a post that is currently held by Lubomir Dolgos. Ladislav Melcicky was elected vice president of the FNM Presidium by secret ballot yesterday and Jan Mikus, Peter Magvasi, Miroslav Knitl, and Milan Cagala were elected members of the FNM Presidium.

Jan Bilek, Jan Lukacik, Stefan Tholt, and Jan Petek were elected out of 10 candidate members of the FNM Supervisory Board by secret ballot. The FNM Supervisory Board, which has five members, is chaired under the law by the minister of finance.

Finance Minister Explains Economic Priorities

AU2904140293 Prague CTK in English 1820 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] London April 27 (CTK correspondent)—Halting of inflation, even at the cost of a higher unemployment, a temporary increase in enterprises' debts and a decline in production are the Slovak Government's priorities, Slovak Finance Minister Julius Toth said in London today.

Speaking at an annual conference of the governors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), he said that for 1993, the Slovak cabinet adopted measures to stop the decline in the economy's performance, Toth said.

The Slovak state budget for 1993 was created as a balanced one, however, it provides a minimum reserve to ensure the economy's stabilisation and realisation of structural programmes. Further resources might be acquired by issuing of government bonds and by direct foreign aid and credits.

After the split of the Czechoslovak Federation on January 1, 1993, Slovakia became one of the EBRD self-standing participants with a stake of 4,300 shares worth 43 million ECU.

Toth signed today an agreement between Slovakia and EBRD on a loan worth 15 million ECU destined for the modernisation of Slovakia's road network. The loan, which is guaranteed by the government, was agreed upon as early as under the Czechoslovak Federation.

Laying of a new surface on 300 kilometres of Slovakia's main roads, which are also being used by trucks of international road transport, should be funded from the loan.

Government Views Tightened UN Sanctions

LD2904205093 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1600 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Report on government spokesman's briefing by correspondent Gabor Bankuti]

[Text] At today's session the government took cognizance of the tightened UN sanctions against the Serbia-Montenegro state federation. The tightening of the sanctions will mean the following from the Hungarian viewpoint:

Any kind of transit shipping on the Danube is prohibited. However, the UN Security Council sanctions committee can grant an exemption from the ban. In case the transit shipment is permitted every single cargo ship must be subjected to a strict check. It is expected that there will be no obstacle to obtaining permits for the Dunaujvaros [town in south-central Hungary] iron ore shipments.

Any kind of road or rail transport via Serbia and Montenegro is prohibited. The sanctions committee can give an exemption from this ban, too, in special cases.

Exportation continues to be entirely banned. However, with the committee's permission it will also be possible to export foodstuffs, medical, and humanitarian products which had been exempt from the embargo earlier.

Proceedings must be launched against individuals and legal entities violating the sanctions and they must be held responsible. Serbian and Montenegrin funds and the assets originating from them must be frozen, except for those belonging to private individuals, and it must be reported to the sanctions committee. The ships, freight vehicles, trains, and cargo aircraft belonging to Serbia and Montenegro must be stopped and if any violation of the sanctions can be established the vehicles must be seized.

At the same time the government stresses that certain legal rules need to be amended or new laws must be made to carry out the tightening of the sanctions.

Deputies Discuss Danube Diversion

AU2804122293 Budapest MTI in English 1932 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Budapest, 26 April (MTI)—It is insufficient for Hungary to wait only for the International Court of Justice to settle its debate with Slovakia over the Gabcikovo water barrage and the diversion of the Danube, Andras Attila Fodor of the Hungarian Democratic Forum (MDF) told Parliament today [26 April].

He proposed that Hungary turn to the Security Council or other UN forum since the unilateral diversion of the Danube constituted an act of aggression, even if no military force was deployed.

Zsolt Zetenyi, another deputy of the governing party, described the violation of the Danube border as an international scandal. "It was entirely due to Hungary's patient attitude that the affair did not escalate into an international conflict," he said.

On behalf of the independent deputies, Csaba Ilkei said the Hungarian Government had made too many concessions during talks on a separate agreement with Slovakia. All this was incompatible with the effective parliamentary resolution, he said.

Antall, Jeszenszky Leave for Visit to Ukraine

LD3004082093 Budapest MTI in English 0659 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Budapest, April 30 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall left for Ukraine on a brief working visit on Friday morning. He is accompanied by Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky.

Antall's special plane will land at Munkacevo. Limited attendance and plenary talks will be held with Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk and the host delegation in Uzhgorod about ways to promote bilateral and regional cooperation.

Antall will set off for Budapest early this afternoon.

First Quarter Drop in Imports, Exports Reported

LD2804210993 Budapest MTI in English 1440 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Budapest, April 28 (MTI)—Hungarian exports were down by 28.7 per cent to USD 1.8 billion in the first quarter this year compared with the same period last year, while imports fell by 5 per cent to USD 2.5bn, International Economic Relations Minister Bela Kadar told the press today, Wednesday.

The smallest fall in exports, of nine per cent, was to developing countries, while the largest, of 33 per cent, was to EFTA [European Free Trade Association] countries.

However, while the country's overall exports were down, there was an increase in exports to China, Croatia, Romania and Slovenia.

Export of agricultural products saw the largest decline of 44 per cent, while the export of machines and equipment fell by only 7 per cent.

Meanwhile, imports of energy sources and machinery fell, but imports of consumer goods grew by 3 per cent and agricultural products by 8 per cent.

A total of USD 400m in working capital came to Hungary in the first quarter.

Walesa Congratulates Yeltsin on Referendum

LD2904220493 Warsaw PAP in English 2120 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Warsaw, April 29—President Lech Walesa on Thursday congratulated Russian President Boris Yeltsin on his victory in Sundays referendum in the Russian Federation.

In a letter to the Russian president, released on Thursday by the Presidential Press Office, President Walesa said that he had received the news of the results "with real joy."

"The citizens of Russia have repeated the confidence in you which they showed at the presidential elections," Walesa wrote. "They have recognised you as a leader capable of leading the country through a difficult period of reform. They have shown their conviction that your programme of transformation is logical, reliable, and promising of hope."

President Walesa stressed that Poland observed the changes in the Russian Federation with sympathy. "I do not need to remind you that our sympathy is with the reformist groups. We are convinced that right is on their side. It is they who can turn Russia into a democratic, prosperous and stable country."

President Walesa stressed that it was in the interests of Poland, Europe and the world that attempts to create a stable Russia should succeed.

Sejm Approves Government Privatization Plan

LD3004091493 Warsaw Fourth Program Radio Network in Polish 0856 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Statement by Sejm Deputy Speaker Jozef Zych at a session of the Sejm in Warsaw—live]

[Text] We move to the vote on the entirety of the draft law. Who is for the adoption in its entirety of the draft law on national investment funds and their privatization, in the form proposed by the Ownership Transformations Commission and the Economic Policy, Budget, and Finance Commission, together with the adopted amendments? Please raise your hands. Who is against? Who has abstained from the vote? Thank you. [applause]

I declare the result: 415 deputies took part in the vote; 215 voted for the adoption of the draft law, 178 deputies voted against, 22 abstained from the vote. I state that the Sejm has adopted the law on national investment funds and their privatization. [applause]

Swedish Prime Minister Meets With Suchocka

LD2904212493 Warsaw TV Polonia Network in Polish 1730 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] In talks with Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt, Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka expressed the hope that Swedish banks will grant credits to investors in their own country for enterprises in Poland.

Carl Bildt is in Warsaw on a two-day, working visit. The heads of government decided that Poland and Sweden will cooperate in lifting the wreck of the Jan Heweliusz ferry from the Baltic seabed.

The almost two-hour talks between the Polish and Swedish prime minsiters were dominated by the possibility of increasing Swedish investments in our country, interbank cooperation, environmental protection, and Baltic cooperation. Sweden is one of the first countries to move Poland on to the list of countries which have a lower degree of investment risk. The Swedes are the third largest investors in Poland.

[Begin Suchocka recording] We believe in more efficient and greater involvement—the help of banks, the granting of certain government credits on the part of Sweden for investors who wish to invest in Poland. That is what we discussed. We spoke about the type of institution which could facilitate investments in Poland for Swedish investors. [end recording]

In Prime Minister Suchocka's view, the most important thing is to maintain political and economic stability in Poland so that foreign investors will want to come to us.

[Begin Bildt recording, language not discernible, with superimposed Polish translation] There are a number of large Swedish companies in Poland. There are also many small and medium-sized investors, especially from southern Sweden, who are active in northern Poland. I think that the best proof of the development of good relations is the fact that they come here of their own accord, without the intercession of our governments. [end recording]

In the opinion of the Swedish prime minister, there is much to do in the area of environmental protection. The expansion of Swedish help in this field is to be discussed by experts.

The heads of our two governments will continue their talks in Stockholm.

Economic cooperation and the situation in Europe were the subjects of discussion during the meeting of our Swedish guest with Lech Walesa. The president stressed that the size and scale of the reforms which must be carried out in Europe exceed the possibilities of any one country. That is why cooperation is essential.

Security in Europe and the situation in Yugoslavia were also the main subjects of the talks between Carl Bildt and Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski.

Meets With President Walesa

WS3004084593 Warsaw SERWIS INFORMACYJNY PREZYDENTA in Polish 2040 GMT 29 Apr 93

["The Swedish Prime Minister in the Belvedere"—SERWIS INFORMACYJNY headline]

[Text] Lech Walesa, president of the Republic of Poland, received Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt in the Belvedere.

They discussed the challenges and dangers following the collapse of the communist system.

"The existence of the Soviet bloc imposed some discipline on the West; now Europe lacks concepts and plans of development, a common system of values", said the president. "The weakness of Europe is the lack of decisiveness, which manifests itself in Yugoslavia; cooperation within the UN and its conventions, and treaties is not very effective."

"Russia must receive aid," stated the president, stressing the need to support this country. The aid should arrive there via Central and Eastern Europe countries which are far more advanced in democratic and market transformations. He expressed satisfaction with the good relations between Poland and Sweden. He also said he was convinced that they would develop further.

Prime Minister Bildt shared the president's opinion concerning the evaluation of our bilateral relations. He stressed the contribution of the "solidarity" revolution and Lech Walesa himself to the building of a new Europe: "The Polish economic policy is proving itself; it is a signal for others, including Russia."

Meets With Minister Skubiszewski

LD2904135193 Warsaw PAP in English 1317 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Warsaw, April 29—Issues relating to European security, in particular the war in former Yugoslavia and cooperation of states within the CSCE, were the main topic of discussion between Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt and Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski on Thursday.

Bildt said that international community should exert a direct military pressure on those responsible for the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He added that U.N sanctions are an important step but not sufficient.

Skubiszewski stressed that both Sweden and Poland are among the most active states in the CSCE. The two politicians described as very good Polish-Swedish cooperation, both bilateral and in international organizations.

Arrested PC Official Stages Hunger Strike

AU2904102793 Warsaw PAP in English 1826 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Warsaw, April 28—Director of the Centre Alliance (PC) Parliamentary Office Wojciech Dobrzynski, arrested on bribery charges, has been on a strict hunger strike since last weekend, refusing even to accept liquids. He is fed by a drip, PC leader Jaroslaw Kaczynski told reporters.

Kaczynski added that Dobrzynski's health deteriorated sharply this Monday. He stressed, quoting information released by "one of the prison doctors," that a motion for appointing an independent medical commission to examine Dobrzynski's health had been dismissed by the health minister "following pressure from the State Protection Office (UOP)."

Dobrzynski, arrested on February 26, is charged with taking a 1.5 million zlotys bribe (about 90 dollars) from the Sopot-based "Horn" company. He has been on a hunger strike since the day of his arrest.

Meanwhile, PC deputies are to ask Dobrzynski to stop the hunger strike, PC deputy Bartlomiej Kolodziej said after a meeting of the PC floor group today. He added that the life of a party colleague, whose condition is already very serious, was most important for the PC.

Kolodziej said also that the PC parliamentary floor group would forward a motion calling for a Sejm debate on alleged irregularities in the actions of the justice authorities.

Government Body Discusses Rural Health Care

AU2904102893 Warsaw PAP in English 1905 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Warsaw, April 28—The cabinet's Social Committee resolved during its meeting today that measures to improve health care in the countryside, proposed by the Health Ministry, should focus on the improvement of the organization of the health service in the years 1993-1994, while a long-range programme relating to the issue is to be worked out by an inter-ministerial team.

The Health Ministry's programme, linked with the implementation of the government's priority programme "Chances for the Countryside and Agriculture", envisages the introduction of various forms of health service ownership and provides for local governments to take over the organization of health care for their residents.

Under the programme, the scope of the health services is to improve the conditions for carrying out diagnostic and laboratory tests.

The programme also envisages the promotion of a healthy life style and preventive actions among countryside residents.

According to Health Ministry data, the number of health centres in the country is sufficient, but more physicians as well as diagnostic and therapeutic equipment are needed.

Government Enforces Embargo Against Yugoslavia

AU2904181093 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1733 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 29/4/1993—The Romanian Government approved a decision stipulating measures to enforce the Resolution 820 of the United Nations Security Council regarding the embargo on Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

The measures drawn up by the government are extending the former government decisions to break the economic, financial, technical, scientific, cultural and tourism relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the surveillance of the international traffic on the Danube River.

The new government decision forbids transportation of any goods to or from Yugoslavia over Romanian border.

No ship, regardless of nationality, meant to operate in or come from Yugoslavia shall enter Romanian territory.

Yugoslav imports of medicine and foodstuff which are going to be regulated by the Security Council together with other imports authorized by the Security Council shall be exempted from this interdiction.

The new decision stipulates also that trucks and rolling stock are allowed to pass to or from Yugoslavia only at the border points Jimbolia and Stamora Moravica and only on the basis of a permit given by the Committee of Sanctions. At the Iron Gates I and Iron Gates II border points, the traffic is allowed only for essential supplies also approved by the named committee.

The transit of goods on the Danube through Yugoslavia is also regulated. It is permitted only on the presentation of a specific permit given for each vessel by the Committee of Sanctions.

The private or state owned ships registered in Yugoslavia or whose preponderant or majority stake is owned by a natural or juristic person from Yugoslavia are not allowed to use the shipping facilities, including dams and channels on Romania's territory.

All the ships, freight trucks, rolling stock, aircraft which violate or are suspected to have violated the resolutions of the Security Council will be held by the Romanian authorities for investigation.

The decision also stipulates that all funds lying in Romanian territory and originated in proprieties from Yugoslavia or controlled therefrom directly or indirectly, by public authorities, companies or entities of Yugoslavia, are altogether frozen.

The measures forbid the supply of financial or non-financial services to any person or organization for activities conducted in the territory of Yugoslavia, except for telecommunication, mail and legal services as well as services for securing humanitarian aid and exceptional goals.

Iliescu Receives EBRD Vice President Freeman

AU2904081893 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0646 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 29/4/1993—Ronald Freeman, vice president of the EBRD [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development], and Joseph Perella, president of the Wasserstein-Perella financial and banking group, were received Wednesday [28 April] evening at Cotroceni Palace by Romania's President Ion Iliescu. The high banking officials are presently in Romania to attend the Thursday, 29 April, opening in Bucharest of the Capital SA institution specializing in financial operations and management consulting.

In a statement made for the press at the end of the interview, Freeman stated that the new financial institution will help Romania to improve exports and investments and also for the restructuring of the companies and of economy in general, making use of the Romanians' talent for partnership.

Vacaroiu Meets With Freeman

AU2904194493 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1753 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 29/4/1993—The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] wants to contribute to increasing the capital in Romania and not to its indebtedness, said Ronald Freeman, head of the EBRD delegation, in a meeting on April 29 at Victoria Palace with Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu.

The guests' presence in Romania is occasioned by the signing of the founding agreement of the Capital Company SA, EBRD first investment of the kind in Eastern Europe. Mr. Freeman showed that the initiative was intended to boost foreign investments, as well as Romania's exports which in the end would help creating new jobs.

According to the government spokesman, the delegation was authorized by the EBRD to participate in recapitalizing both the small and medium enterprises and the banks.

Mr. Freeman showed that the body he represented would back the restructuring and modernization of the autochthonous financial- banking system.

In turn, Premier Nicolae Vacaroiu, stating the government's readiness to back the bank's initiatives and actions, outlined to the guest the executive's program of privatization. He invited the EBRD to get involved in the materialization of the infrastructure projects that pursue especially the development of modern communication and road systems.

Minister Melescanu Visits Singapore, Thailand

AU2904194593 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1803 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 29/4/1993—Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu arrived on an official visit in Singapore, on April 29 in the morning. The minister was received by the president and had talks with his counterpart. After that, the Romanian foreign minister left for Thailand. The schedule of the official visit in the Kingdom of Thailand includes a visit to the Great Palace of the Kings of Thailand. Foreign Minister Melescanu will have interviews with the prime minister, the president of the Senate and also official talks with the foreign minister of Thailand and other officials. The foreign ministers are going to sign the agreement of abolishing visas and the agreement of promotion and guarantee of investments.

Minister Receives Council of Europe Delegation

AU2904121093 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1035 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 29/4/1993—A meeting was held during the visit paid to Romania by representatives of the Commission for Juridical Issues and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe with the leadership of the Ministry of the Interior, during which a presentation was made of the activity and difficulties encountered by the Romanian police. "The much debated issue of police demilitarisation was also approached," told the daily ADEVARUL Major-General George Ioan Danescu. I explained that police, whether it has or not military ranks, has to make its duty in fighting crimes, because the citizens are not interested in the way one policeman is dressed, but if he protects them and comes to meet their requests. From this point of view, we are much concerned about the lack of equipment and of a proper number of staff. We are also concerned with the issue of demilitarisation, but in this respect we have to take measures specific to the current situation in Romania."

"During the talks, it was not mentioned any conditioning for Romania's entering the Council of Europe on the issue of police demilitarisation," said General Danescu, appreciating that due to his exigency and harshness against criminals and elements lacking discipline, this occasion was also used for various attacks. "I am convinced that there are many persons who want a civilian at the head of the ministry and maybe this is not a bad thing. But I believe that at this moment there is not only a hint at the office I am holding, but at the person holding it... It is precisely for this reason that many will say that we cannot enter Europe because we have no civil police or a civilian at its head," said General Danescu.

Opposition Accuses Iliescu of Violating Constitution

AU2804162293 Bucharest COTIDIANUL in Romanian 21 Apr 93 p 2

[Declaration signed by the parties included in the Democratic Convention; place and date not given: "Iliescu Is Accused of Violating the Constitution"]

[Text] "Reproduced in several newspapers of maximum interest and not refuted by any stand of the president, the statements made by Mr. Ion Iliescu regarding trade unions' claims have provoked great astonishment and maximum concern," reads a declaration signed by the Democratic Convention and sent to Am Press for publication.

"In a country that has started off on the path of democracy after having paid the very heavy price through the sacrificed blood of the [1989] revolution martyrs, it is incomprehensible that actions of trade unions that are in complete accordance with the law and represent the population's expression of a state of discontent and disappointment about the policy promoted by those in power, are fought with threatening declarations." President Iliescu is accused of violating the constitution and of inciting violence. "Regarding the seriousness of these facts we reserve our right to notify the Prosecutor General's Office so that in the spirit of respect for the provisions of the law, that office should start investigating those who are guilty of inciting people to disorder and social confrontation."

The declaration is signed by the PNTCD [National Peasant Christian Democratic Party]; the FSN [National Salvation Front]; the UDMR [Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania]; the PAC [Civic Alliance Party]; the PL [Liberal Party]; the PSDR [Social Democratic Party of Romania]; and the PER [Romanian Ecological Party].

Labor Ministry Reports Unemployment Statistics

AU2904102693 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0900 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 29/4/1993—According to data from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the number of unemployed was on April 26 of 1,055,983 (of which 622,544 women) i.e. 9.5 percent.

959,155 people—namely 895,767 workers, 106,671 high school graduates and 16,717 higher school graduates—were granted benefits,—614,186 unemployment benefits and 344,969 subsistence ones.

Commentary Views Iliescu-Clinton Meeting

AU2904160193 Bucharest COTIDIANUL in Romanian 27 Apr 93 p 2

[Apostol Stan commentary: "Romania's President at the White House"]

[Text] Undeniably, the United States is a mecca of democracy. It has acquired this status not only through its domestic political system that permits a constant regeneration of the political class and utilization of the nation's entire energy in pursuing the miraculous "American dream," which is always renewed, but also through the decisive role it has played in winning the Cold War and in the disintegration of communism through peaceful competition. Learning from its own mistakes at the end of World War II and through tremendous efforts, the Americans curbed Soviet expansion and, through a technological and electronic revolution, contributed to the collapse of one of the largest international empires based exclusively on coercion and mass terror. Thus, democracy has won the battle against tyranny.

Today the United States is the only superpower—not based on nuclear warheads, as superpowers were measured previously—but based on its economic and financial potential, on the guarantee it represents for world peace, and on the model of social and economic organization it embodies for the former communist states. Hence the imperative need for the heads of state in eastern Europe, including Russia, to visit the White House, where they receive indispensable political and economic support.

Ion Iliescu's recent trip to Washington, prompted by the opening of the Holocaust Museum, comes extremely late. The relative isolation in our relations with the United States, however, was caused in Bucharest. Not at all inspired immediately after the [1989] revolution, Mr. Iliescu attempted to link our destiny to the Soviet empire. Thus he hastened to follow Gorbachev's example not just as far as perestroyka is concerned—called "original democracy"—but also through a treaty that isolated us from the West and the United States at a time when we had just won the right to build our own future. Through the policy of the same president, the anticommunist revolution was hijacked and limited political pluralism was practiced by turning the workers against the intellectuals and reactivating the Securitate forces and part of the party nomenklatura in order to hamper the affirmation of genuine democracy. In order to confuse the general public, xenophobia and extremist nationalism were promoted. What has been the result? Romania has been isolated by Iliescu being kept at a distance. Except for the socialist Mitterrand, Iliescu has not received any official invitation to Bonn, London, or Washington, for that matter. In these capitals, Mr. Iliescu is an outlaw and, through him, Romania as well. Not accidentally, but because of President Iliescu's political ambiguities, the West views Romania as something resembling Milosevic's Serbia.

The collapse of the Soviet empire, economic decline, and ethnic conflicts in the independent states that emerged from its ruins, left Romania's president—who played the wrong Gorbachev card—without any assistance in a world that had become ever more dependent on the West and the United States. His isolation intensified within the context of the dismemberment of Yugoslavia. At the same time, however, due to its strategic position in the application of the UN sanctions against Serbia, Romania suddenly became an area of keen interest. The distressing Serbo-Croatian-Bosnian war offers extremely favorable conditions for Romania to be integrated into the sphere of Western interests. Consequently, Mr. Iliescu began to be accepted as a "democrat" not only in Paris, but also in Brussels at NATO headquarters and the European Community. Profiting from the commemoration of the Holocaust, last week he made it into the White House, where, even if he stayed only a quarter of an hour, he broke this dangerous isolation for Romania. The encounter with Clinton, though just a protocol occasion, is an event that has to be developed through a firm pro-European and pro-Atlantic policy and through accelerating the economic reform process and overcoming the stagnation of the Vacaroiu government.

Iliescu's visit to the White House indicates that the Americans have decided to move past the "quarantine" stage for Romania's post-revolutionary leadership. Thinking especially of the country, they are finally trying to integrate it into the Euro-Atlantic community of democratic nations. The American authorities seem to convey the message that even if their interlocutor is the Romanian president who lacks firm democratic and pro-Western convictions, he has to be treated as the representative of a nation which in past years has proved that it possesses great potential in the struggle for organizing a state ruled by law.

Bosnian Serbs To Reconsider Vance-Owen Plan

LD2904150493 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1421 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Apr (TANJUG)—Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic had talks in Belgrade today with Radovan Karadzic, president of the Serb republic [in Bosnia-Herzegovina], and Momcilo Karajisnik, president of the assembly of the Serb republic.

As it has been announced, President Milosevic presented his stands and views in connection with the main aspects of the Vance-Owen plan and points agreed upon in talks last week with David Owen, cochairman of the conference on former Yugoslavia.

Radovan Karadzic and Momcilo Krajisnik accepted a proposal of President Milosevic and the People's Assembly of Serbia to convene a session of the Serb republic at which all aspects of the proposed plan including all new information will be thouroughly examined.

Assembly President Momcilo Krajisnik decided to convene the Assembly session for 5 May.

Butrus-Ghali Proposes New Talks in Athens

LD3004093293 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0903 GMT 30 Apr 93

["Pool" item]

[Text] New York, April 30 (TANJUG)—United Nations Secretary- General Butrus Butrus-Ghali on Thursday evening [29 April] informed the Security Council that a meeting of representatives of the three confronted sides in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as those of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro and Croatia has been called for May 1 and 2 in Athens.

In a letter to Pakistani Ambassador Jamshed Marker, who presides over the Security Council in April, Butrus-Ghali said that cochairmen of the international conference on former Yugoslavia Cyrus Vance and Lord David Owen had called the meeting after Bosnian Serb leaders Radovan Karadzic and Momcilo Krajisnik informed them that the parliament of the Serb republic in Bosnia-Herzegovina has called a new session to reconsider its earlier decision in view of the peace plan.

Following a meeting of Krajisnik and Karadzic with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, Krajisnik called a parlimentary session for May 5.

Spokesman for the two cochairmen of the conference on former Yugoslavia Fred Eckhard said on Thursday evening that the purpose of the meeting in Athens would be to "give all parties a clear sense of how the plan meets the various security concerns of all parties to the conflict."

Besides Vance and Owen, the meeting will also be attended by Thorvald Stoltenberg, who will on May 3 take over the post of U.N. representative and cochairman of the committee of the international conference on former Yugoslavia which is now held by Vance.

The participants in the meeting will be presented with a "slightly modified" version of the peace plan providing for a network of U.N.-controlled throughways in Bosnia-Herzegovina which would ensure free movement of people and goods. Under the modified plan, a demilitarized 10-km-wide belt would be secured for the Bosnian Serbs in the northwest to link their territory with Serbia.

The modified plan also provides for an international authority securing access to a network of roads and railway lines through Bosnia-Herzegovina and boyond.

Such an international authority would be securing access to roads and railway lines cutting through provinces and would continue the job even if or when UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] troops have withdrawn.

Eckhard said that Vance and Owen saw the Bosnian Serb decision to reconsider the earlier refusal to sign the peace plan as a "first concrete result" of a decision by the leaderships of Yugoslavia, Serbia and Montenegro to uphold the plan.

He added that Vance and Owen hoped that the Bosnian Serb parliament would on May 5 decide to sign the remaining two documents of the plan.

Last Monday, the Bosnian Serb parliament decided that a final decision on the Vance-Owen plan be made at a referendum called for mid-May.

The deputies did not accept an appeal sent to them by Yugoslav, Serbian and Montenegrin Presidents Dobrica Cosic, Slobodan Milosevic and Momir Bulatovic to accept the plan.

Karadzic Asks Clinton To Invite Warring Sides To Camp David

LD2904162893 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1506 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Apr (TANJUG)—Radovan Karadzic, president of the Serb Republic [in Bosnia-Herzegovina], today sent a letter to U.S. President Bill Clinton stressing that the imposition of the Vance-Owen plan will not stop the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, SRNA agency reports.

Karadzic stressed in the letter to Clinton that there are two key reasons for this: that Muslims will not halt their offensives and provocations as long as they believe in an international military intervention, and that Muslims and Croats do not have reasons to end the fighting as long as only the Serb side is under pressure.

Karadzic recalls in the letter that the Bosnian Serbs did not come from Serbia, but that they have been living in Bosnia for centuries, that they are in control of mainly their own territories, and that they are prepared to compromise, but that they cannot accept an unfair map "pushing them into poverty and threatening their survival."

"Serbs do not want anything but the right to self-determination. Serbs want what Abraham Lincoln gave to the people of West Virginia during the American civil war. Like the people of West Virginia, the Serbs in Bosnia did not want to leave the federation, but they were forced to do so, and now a plan threatening our survival is being forced upon us," Karadzic says urging President Clinton to, like Lincoln, acknowledge the right of nations to self-determination.

"Please invite all participants in the conflict to Camp David and help them find a solution, a peaceful solution based on the right of nations to self-determination," Karadzic says in the letter sent to U.S. President Bill Clinton today.

UN Spokesman: More Troops Needed for New 'Safe Areas'

AU2904172393 Paris AFP in English 1706 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Sarajevo, April 29 (AFP)—More U.N. troops would be needed to police proposed safe areas in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a spokesman said Thursday [29 April], as fierce fighting in central Bosnia was reported largely to have died down.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman Barry Frewer said the 7,000-strong force in Bosnia-Herzegovina would have to be strengthened if the U.N. Security Council declares Sarajevo and three other towns "safe areas."

His comments came after a Security Council delegation recommended that the "safe area" declared around the eastern town of Srebrenica be extended to the capital, as well as to Tuzla, Gorazde and Zepa.

"We are an implementing force here," Commander Frewer said. He said it could be "presumed" that additional troops would be required to police the safe zones, if they were declared.

His view was echoed by Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic, who rebuffed the idea of setting up "safe areas," saying such havens could not be safe "with (Serb) guns around" them.

"There are no safe havens with guns around," Silajdzic said."As long as the heavy weapons are around the towns, the civilians are not safe," he said in an interview with the BBC in London.

Meanwhile fighting which has been raging in central Bosnia for weeks was reported to have calmed Thursday after a meeting between Croatian and Bosnian Moslem military commanders.

Bosnian General Sefer Halilovic and Croatian forces (HVO) General Milivoj Petkovic met in Vitez to reaffirm a ceasefire agreement signed last Sunday, which has been widely broken, British UNPROFOR spokesman Martin Waters said.

After the 9 a.m. meeting, the two commanders then travelled to the battle area, near Kula, 40 kilometers (25 miles) northwest of Sarajevo, in a bid to consolidate the ceasefire, Waters said.

"The ceasefire was agreed by both of them once again. After that they went to Kula, near Busovaca, the scene of the heaviest fightings last few days, to speak to their commanders on the ground to reenforce the ceasefire," he said.

"The situation has been quiet in the region of Busovaca since this meeting at nine o'clock. There were no reports of fighting in other regions around Vitez and Zenica.

"The fighting has ceased overnight. This morning there were still some sporadic mortar fire which has stopped after the nine o'clock meeting."

Fighting between Croatian and Bosnian Moslem forces in the area last week left an estimated 200 troops dead, according to British U.N. officials. No figure was available for casualties in the last few days' fighting.

However, Commander Frewer said fighting in Sarajevo had increased, with more artillery duels between Serb and Moslem forces Wednesday and Thursday. The shells were fired "about 50-50" by each side, Frewer said.

Sarajevo has been relatively quiet since a nationwide cease-fire—long since broken on most fronts—was declared on March 28.

In Srebrenica, which the UNPROFOR demilitarised last week and which the security council mission visited, there was only "sporadic small-arms fire" and "some isolated shelling" around the town, Frewer reported. [passage omitted]

In a separate incident Thursday, two Croatian soldiers were killed in an attack by Serbs near the town of Gospic, 200 kilometers (130 miles) south of Zagreb, the Croatian HINA news agency reported.

Croatian, Bosnian Military Chiefs Discuss Joint Command

LD2904181393 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1500 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Talks between Milivoj Petkovic, chief of the General Staff of the Croatian Defense Council, and Sefer Halilovic, chief of the General Staff of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Army, on the setting up of joint commands

of the Croatian Defense Council and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army which began in Jablanica yesterday, were resumed in Zenica last night. They also spoke about the need to urgently stop conflicts between the Croats and Muslims and ways of achieving that and restoring trust.

Negotiations continued today in Nova Bijela in the UNPROFOR headquarters, the defense department of the Croatian Community of Herzeg-Bosnia announced today.

Muslim, Croatian Commanders Sign 'Yet Another' Cease-Fire

AU3004092293 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 0800 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Sefer Halilovic, commander of the General Staff of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army, and Milivoj Petkovic, commander of the General Staff of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] for Bosnia-Herzegovina, and their assistants signed yet another, hopefully definitive, document on the cessation of combat activities between these two formations.

This document, states among other things: All civilians—men, women, and children—captured during clashes between the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and the HVO must be set free. The deadline for realization of this provision is 1200 [1000 GMT], 30 April. The sanitization of the battlefield must be dealt with immediately, that is, the dead must be collected and buried. The deadline for the realization of this provision is 1600, 30 April.

The commanders of corps and operative zones are responsible for the implementation of this order. They must submit a written report containing lists of released civilians, and deceased and buried persons by 1200, 1 May.

This order should be implemented in close cooperation with the UN Protection Force, the International Red Cross, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the EC representatives.

British Commander Says Vitez Cease-Fire 'Fragile'

LD3004083993 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 0816 GMT 30 Apr 93

[By Gavin Cordon, PRESS ASSOCIATION]

[Text] A local cease-fire brokered by British UN troops in the Vitez area of Bosnia remains fragile, the Army's commander in the region warned today.

Lt. Col. Bob Stewart, commander of the Cheshire Regiment, said it would be several days before they knew if the truce between the warring Muslim and Croat factions would hold.

The cease-fire was agreed after the British escorted the commanders of the Bosnian Croat and Muslim Armies to the frontline to tell their men directly to stop firing.

"There are not too many bangs around—that's the way we discover if a cease-fire has been violated," he said in a satellite interview with GMTV from the British base at Vitez.

"We think it is slowly working. No one can say a cease-fire is effective totally—that's not how it works here. It will be a few days before we feel confident enough to say it is holding."

Muslims 'Forcibly' Mobilizing Croats in Konjic

LD2904200693 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Work of a mixed delegation for monitoring the implementation of reached agreements and orders at the level of commands of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army has reached a standstill due to the failure to observe obligations from agreements envisaging that military formations must move out of civilian buildings and that arrested people must be set free. This has caused fresh tensions in Mostar, the Croatian Defense Council says stressing that there are no real negotiating partners on the other side, because the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army is undergoing reorganization. It has not been clearly set out which territories are controlled by which formations, while new formations, unknown in Mostar so far, have emerged.

At the same time, the Muslims have forcibly been mobilizing the Croats into the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army in the town of Konjic. The Muslim authorities proclaimed a part of political and military leaders of the Croatian Defense Council in Konjic as Ustashe and extremist, and the entire army was proclaimed a terrorist organization. This decision was also broadcast by local radio Konjic. Those Croats who refuse to be mobilized are arrested, while those frightened who heed the call-ups are immediately sent to the frontline to fight the HVO, the information department said. On two killed members of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army, HVO members found identification documents proving that they belong to the Kosovo-Sandzak Handzar division. The IDs were issued by the Kosovo republic.

Joint Police Patrols Try To Halt 'Terror' Against Muslims

AU2904152193 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Even though there are no open clashes in Mostar between the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army, that is, the Croats and the Muslims, the terror against the Muslim population is continuing. Every night some Muslim-owned facility is blown up. Muslim homes are broken into and other

forms of intimidation are also used, including expulsion from areas where the Croats are in the majority.

The official statement says that joint patrols of military police are trying to prevent these incidents, but with meager results. The fact that not all is well after the Zagreb agreement is confirmed by today's public statement by the joint commission for the observance of the agreement and orders on the level of the Operative Zone of eastern Herzegovina and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army. The statement says that the work of this commission is currently at a standstill because of the nonobservation of the agreement on the withdrawal of soldiers from civilian facilities and the release of arrestees.

Further activities of the commission will depend on the two headquarters and the help provided by others, particularly the civilian authorities. As for the conflict between the HVO and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army in central Bosnia and northern Herzegovina, the destruction of religious shrines and other sacred monuments, the burning down of houses, the massacring of civilians, the arrests particularly of intellectuals and religious officials, [words indistinct] the society of (?Ilmija) for Herzegovina, and the committee of the Islamic community of Mostar addressed the public today. These associations condemn in the strongest of terms the perpetrators and organizers of these crimes, and call on the religious institutions of both nations to do likewise.

Croatian Leaders Warn Against 'Muslim Aggression'

LD2904173793 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1500 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Report by Slavko Rako from Citluk]

[Text] A joint session ended in Citluk a few moments ago of the presidency of the Croatian Community of Herceg-Bosna, the Croatian Defense Council [HVO], the presidium of the Croatian Democratic Union for Bosnia-Herzegovina, representatives of the Croatian people in the Bosnia-Herzegovina presidency and government and HVO presidents from Herzeg-Bosna municipalities who managed to come to today's session. After several hours of debate the following conclusions were adopted:

All participants in the debate gave support for the joint statement signed in Zagreb by Messrs Boban and Izetbegovic. They also took it upon themselves to ensure the consistent implementation of the Vance-Owen plan. They regretted Muslim aggression against the HVO, especially clashes in the Konjic and Jablanica area. All this, we read in the conclusions, contravenes their signatures on the Vance-Owen plan and the statement made in Zagreb.

Bosnian Croat leaders also decided to establish the responsibility of all those who were in the field—and issue a report for the public. The United Nations Protection Force [UNPROFOR] was asked to secure unhindered access for journalists to Croatian villages in the Konjic, Zenica, Vitez, Novi Travnik, and other areas—where crimes have been committed against Croatian people—so that biased coverage be prevented. A more active role of UN forces was called for to ensure the protection of those areas which—it is suspected—could become scenes of fresh Muslim aggression, above all Kresevo, Novi Travnik, and Bugojno.

All decisions adopted by the Bosnia-Herzegovina state organs in which there are no official Croatian representatives, were proclaimed null and void. The Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna will propose Croatian cadres for joint bodies in accordance with the Vance-Owen plan.

Religious officials and dignitaries of the Catholic Church were invited to take part in the preservation of Croatian interests in Bosnia-Herzegovina and to understand that their duty lies there.

Boban Addresses Meeting

LD2904131793 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Report by correspondent Slavko Rako from Citluk]

[Text] A joint session of the Presidency of the Croatian community of Herzeg-Bosna, the Croatian Defense Council [HVO], the Presidency of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Croatian Democratic Union [HDZ], representatives of the Croatian people in the presidency and government of Bosnia-Herzegovina and heads of HVO organizations throughout Herceg-Bosna was held here today. The session was chaired by Mate Boban, president of the Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna, who, in an introducotry report, emphasized, as one of the goals of the session, the adoption of a plan to be submitted to the Muslim side with a proposal on the work of a joint coordination body agreed upon in Zagreb, venues for its meetings, and topics to be discussed. According to Boban, one of the primary tasks is to resolve the issue of diplomatic and consular missions, which have not been given legitimacy by the Croatian nation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and in which no posts are being allocated to Croats.

Mate Boban explained in greater detail the current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and, in particular, international reaction to events in Bosnia-Herzegovina. According to him, the struggle by the Croatian people in Bosnia-Herzegovina for their rights has entered its most difficult, but final stage.

In reference to Croat-Muslim clashes, Boban said that as a rule clashes took place every time significant decisions affecting relations between the two nations were to be made or when the international community was expected to pass important decisions. The Muslims rely on propaganda to conceal their offensive actions, but once defeated they put the blame on the Croats, Mate Boban said. He went on to add that the Muslims are not

Croatian's enemies, but anyone who choosse to attack Croats wil be treated as an enemy.

Boban singled out, as one of the tasks, the need to implement the Vance-Owen plan whenever the Muslim side shows good will.

It is learned from the Mostar HVO defense department that yesterday's heavy attacks by Muslims units against Busovaca have now been reduced to sporadic provocations. In the Konjic area, Muslim forces this morning resumed their attacks on Vrci, using artillery and infantry weapons. Budisnja Ravan was also attacked by artillery weapons. Forcible mobilization of Croats is under way. Those who refuse are being imprisoned; those who respond are being sent to fight—as they are told—the ustashe.

Commentator Assesses Croat-Muslim Rift

AU2904183093 Zagreb LJILJAN in Serbo-Croatian 26 Apr p 4

[Commentary by Dzemaludin Latic: "Lead Lens"]

[Text] The disappointment and bitterness over the conflict in central Bosnia between the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army grows bigger every day among the Muslims and those Croats who realize where it could lead the two peoples and the two states. The misfortune is even greater when we consider that the appeals launched by respectable organizations to stop this nonsense remain on paper only, and there is constant bloodshed, especially as the interpretations of cause and effect of this conflict are being piled up in the fierce war conducted in the Croatian and Bosnia-Herzegovina state media.

In the Croatian Television program "Picture on Picture" [Slikom na Sliku], Slobodan Praljak, a major general in the Croatian Army, said that the cause of these conflicts is that, supposedly, the KOS [Counter Intelligence Service of Yugoslavia] and its exponents in the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army (they are almost all Muslim), not wanting to confront the Chetniks, initiate these conflicts so as to make the Muslims hate the Croats and thus persuade them (the Muslims) and Bosnia-Herzegovina to join Yugoslavia. Praljak also said that the HVO does not loot aid convoys intended for the Bosnia- Herzegovina Army unless they catch them smuggling weapons.

Prior to that, the Croatian media accused all the military commanders, and, apart from Izetbegovic and Silajdzic, all the Muslim politicians of working for the KOS and explained that, during the absences of President Izetbegovic from Bosnia-Herzegovina, they take every opportunity to create conflicts with the Croats.

The misleading of the Croatian public, morbid logic, and evil intentions culminated in an Anton Pehar's report from Bosnia-Herzegovina. Last night, 19 April, whilst showing the victims of the massacre in Zenica, the Croatian Television correspondent spoke about the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army attacking "everything that is Croatian in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

The Croats are frightened, embittered, and desperate because of the simultaneous chetnik attacks on Sibenik and the "Muslim terror." Who will tell him the following?

"The clashes between the HVO and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army always began when the chetniks launched the most violent attacks on this or that Bosnian town and its civilians, and when the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army went on its more or less successful offensives.

"For more than two and a half months the HVO has not let ammunition through for the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army, which resulted in the fall of both Cerska and, in a way, Srebrenica.

"In central Bosnia, the HVO arrested 20 representatives of various Islamic humanitarian organizations, tried to cut off food supplies, and thereby crushed the Muslims and forced them to accept Mate Boban's demands.

"The cause of the present conflicts is the one-sided interpretation and implementation of the last phase of the Vance-Owen plan on the part of Mate Boban who, contrary to the letter and spirit of the plan, demands that the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army places itself under the command of the HVO. The HVO oath, which Boban wants both Muslims and Croats to take, is that the soldier swears allegiance to "Herceg-Bosna" rather than to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"The province of Travnik belongs equally to the Croats and the Muslims (because they are in approximately equal numbers)."

The Croatian media and the politicians from the Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna persist on calling the provinces of Mostar and Travnik "historically Croatian territories," i.e. exclusively Croatian territories, thus abolishing the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and pushing the Bosnia-Herzegovina Croats into secession. In that case, war is (was) inevitable, particularly because neither of the provinces belongs to just one people and because the provinces do not have national names.

Croatian Television still owe us evidence of previous massacres of Croats and demolished Croatian places of worship. They owe us evidence this time as well. I am not saying that, amidst the violence of war and the hatred gushing forth, some Muslim or other, soldier or commanding officer, has not committed a crime against an innocent Croat. However, I noticed that the leaders of the Bosnia- Herzegovina Army and especially Bosnia-Herzegovina political leaders tend to punish the guilty for their crimes and that this bloodshed is neither initiated nor hushed up (as was the case with the murder of a HVO commander and the kidnapping of Totic, on which we report on page two). But what should one say

when last night, after the HVO shelling killed 16 inhabitants of Zenica, and wounded over 40 people, the Croatian Television news, showing the victims on the sidewalks in Zenica, reported that the Army of Bosnia-Herzegovina was attacking the Croats, driving them out of their homes, using their civilians as a shield, and massacring them?!

Bosnia-Herzegovina Radio reports that, because of this massacre, one of the HVO soldiers from Zenica joined the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and that the Croats from Zenica, Novi Travnik, and the region of Banja Luka who found shelter here, along with Muslim refugees, do not agree with the interpretations and methods of the HVO forces.

Croatian Television also omitted to cover the statement by President Izetbegovic which he gave in Zagreb on the occasion of these conflicts! Croatian Television reported that the Muslims had arrested monks and nuns near Konjic but one of the monks said in a Bosnia-Herzegovina Radio news bulletin that it was not true and that those people were alive and well. Croatian Television does not speak of the women carrying their children who were shot in a village near Vitez, about Muslim intellectuals killed in Vitez, about the villages of Sovic and Dolje near Jablanica, which are being shelled by the HVO and held under siege!

Can the Croatian media persuade any reasonable person that the Muslims do not care about the conflict with the Croats, but with their units on whose good offices depends all the aid sent to the Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina?! (As if Herzegovina were not an integral part of the internationally recognized Bosnia-Herzegovina!) What kind of interpretation is it that implies that the Muslims can be persuaded to live with their enemy in their hegemonistic state of great Serbia?!

An entirely opposite intention and plan are at work here: Mate Boban, supported by the not very numerous but powerful political leadership of Croatia, wants to divide up Bosnia-Herzegovina with the Chetniks, which is not possible without war and the destruction of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army as well as the Bosnian Muslims. That is the reason for all the lies and propaganda! How else can one explain to the Croats, wherever they live, this fiendish collusion with the Chetniks?! Most Bosnia-Herzegovina Croats—unless persuaded that the Muslims are "pro-Yugoslav" and barbarian, primarily FOR THEIR OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS [capitals as published], and then because of their moral and historical responsibility for the suffering of the nation which has so far considered the Croats to be their sincere friends and only true allies—do not want the division of Bosnia-Herzegovina, compensation, the exchange of territories, and the so called humane gradual repopulation of people.

Why is the Croatian branch of the Party of Democratic Action, as well as the democrats from the HVO from Croatia, not talking about the final act of the Muslim tragedy in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Serbian chauvinist threat to the territorial integrity of Croatia, and the exodus of the Croatian people from central Bosnia and the Bosnian Sava basin region? Where is the Croatian opposition, where are the Christian Democrats, why does the Embassy of Bosnia- Herzegovina in Zagreb keep silent about it, why is the Catholic Church silent, why do the Croatian intellectuals not say something about that? Oh God, Oh God, why hast Thou forsaken us? Oh God, Oh God, where hast Thou sown us!

UN Aid Convoy Heads for Srebrenica

LD3004092793 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0856 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Zvornik, 30 Apr (TANJUG)—Following a routine inspection carried out near the town of Zvornik, an aid convoy is heading for Srebrenica via Bratunac and Zuti Most.

The convoy of 10 trucks of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees is carrying food and medicines for Muslims in Srebrenica.

The aid convoy passed safely and without any problems through the territory of the Serbian republic [in Bosnia-Herzegovina].

Srebrenica Quiet Before Arrival of UN Observers

LD2904180793 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1639 GMT 29 Apr 93

["Pool" item]

[Text] Bratunac, April 29 (TANJUG)—There have been no Moslem provocations in the region of Srebrenica in the night between Wednesday [28 April] and Thursday, following a demand by Bosnian Serbs that the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) foil all Moslem attacks in the region, Serbian military sources said.

The sources said the Serbian side has observed the ceasefire since it took effect on April 18. UNPROFOR Commander, Swedish General Lars-Eric Wahlgren said in a letter to the General Staff of the Bosnian Serb Army on Wednesday that Bosnian Serbs fulfilled all obligations contained in the agreement on cease-fire in Srebrenica, a Moslem enclave in eastern Bosnia. Wahlgren said he expected the Moslems to do the same.

Bosnian Serbs expect UNPROFOR to fulfil its part of the bargain and deploy military observers in the region of Srebrenica, which has been a safe area by the U.N. Security Council.

TANJUG's reporter was told by Bosnian Serb sources in Bratunac, eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina, that this was the only way to determine reliably and on time who violates the cease-fire and when, after which no one could falsely accuse Bosnian Serbs of opening fire.

The state and military leadership of Bosnian Serbs had on several occasions called for deployment of U.N. military observers at Bosnian Serb positions in the region of Srebrenica expecting the same to be done on the Moslem side.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and former UNPROFOR commander in Bosnia-Herzegovina Canadian General Lewis Mackenzie agreed, at a meeting in Belgrade on Monday, that UNPROFOR deploy two platoons to the Srebrenica region.

Two Canadian platoons, stationed in Moslem-controlled Tuzla are to be deployed along the demarcation line between the warring sides.

Government Urges Formation of War Crimes Commission

AU2904193293 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] The Bosnia-Herzegovina Government has sent a letter to the cochairmen of the peace conference on the former Yugoslavia, which reads as follows:

To implement the agreement resulting from Point 5 of the joint statement by Messrs. Alija Izetbegovic [Bosnian President] and Mate Boban [Croatian leader in Bosnia] at the meeting held in Zagreb on 24 April 1993, we request that you form special independent international commissions for the investigation of violations of international humanitarian rights and war crimes committed against the civilian population during the renewed clashes between the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and the Croatian Defense Council in central Bosnia and some other parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

We take this opportunity to inform you that the authorities of Bosnia-Herzegovina, in accordance with the said agreement, have opened an investigation to determine violations of international humanitarian rights and crimes against the civilian population, and establish individual responsibility.

Sarajevo, Tuzla, Bihac, Zepa, Gorazde Attacked

AU2904190293

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1700 GMT on 29 April carries in its regular 32-minute newscast several reports on the fighting in the republic.

The Gradacac Information Center reports that "howitzers from Niksici, Borovo Polje, and Turic have been pounding Mionica, and the outskirts all day. 82-mm mortars have been used against the defensive positions in Rajska and Zelinja, and the Chetniks also used tanks on several occasions. The lines in Sibovac, Lukici, Mionica, and Liporasce have been exposed to shelling from Liporasce and Turic. Late this afternoon, the artillery in the chetnik stronghold of (?Zreban) started shelling civilian targets well inside the free territory."

The Brcko Press Center reports that "the chetnik mortar batteries have carried out an intense shelling of the defense lines in the town. The tragedy of about 50,000 civilians in the free Brcko territory, surrounded by some (?10) chetnik artillery and tank strongholds, continues. Since 1545, the chetnik artillery has been frantically pounding the free territory of Brcko."

Reporting from Tuzla, Salih Brkic says that "after a mortar attack and intense small arms fire, the chetniks launched an infantry attack today. However, the Tuzla defenders repelled this attack quickly, pushing the chetniks back to their initial positions. The criminals then fired antiaircraft guns and machine guns. The Banovici front was also fierce today. The chetniks from (?Prevrag) and (?Kablovac) used a tank and howitzer against Homar and Crnjevo, firing some 20 heavy shells, while at around noon they used howitzers from (?If) to pound the town of Banovici itself. It has been much quieter today than in recent days in Kalesija, Lukavac, Zivinice, and Celic."

The Seven-South Operative Group reports from Doboj that "the civilian targets in Mravici, Matuzici, and Sije have been exposed to enemy fire, and the chetniks even shelled Maglaj. The enemy has been preparing for a new attack for several days now, but the defenders are ready for it."

The studio announcer says that "chetnik artillery has been attacking Zepa all day from their strongholds in Han Pijesak."

The Gorazde Press Center reports on a poor line that "the chetnik aggression on the town is claiming many lives, but so is hunger. What is the point in appealing for aid again when no representative of the international community or the Bosnia-Herzegovina leadership wants or dares to come to this suffering and forgotten town?"

The studio announcer says that "the aggressor attempted an infantry breakthrough this morning on the front in the zone of responsibility of the 521st Hill Brigade in Bihac, but this attack was repelled successfully. The chetniks then launched an artillery attack. There has been some sporadic fighting near Bosanska Krupa and Bosanska Otoka."

Describing the situation in Sarajevo, the studio announcer says that "the enemy is continuing his attacks on the city. Two shells landed on Stari Grad at about 1800. The aggressor is shelling Aneks, while in Vogosca, the enemy has intensified the shelling of Orahov Brijeg and Hotonj, and there is also some small arms fire."

Another studio announcer cites UNPROFOR sources as saying that "after yesterday's push by some 150 enemy soldiers from the so-called republic of Krajina, there have not been any major clashes. The aggressor's tank units have penetrated some six kilometers into the Bihac region, but they still have not clashed with Bosnia-Herzegovina Army units." She says that "according to UNPROFOR, the Serb General Manojlo Milovanovic is still refusing to grant passage to convoys for Gorazde and Zepa."

'Heavy Artillery Attacks' Resume in Gradacac

AU3004092493 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 0800 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Report by the Information Center of Gradacac War Presidency]

[Excerpts] There is no peace on the Gradacac battlefield. The extremely difficult day yesterday definitely demonstrated the full scope of aggressor's bestiality, who would stop at nothing in his efforts to conquer this town and chase away and kill its inhabitants.

The long-range artillery in Modrica, Misici, Borovo Polje, Turic, and Porebrice was indiscriminate. It was mostly the vital, civilian installations in the town and the suburbs that were being destroyed. The night brought no changes. The situation was particularly dramatic in the western part of the front, where after a fierce artillery preparation from mortars and howitzers, the enemy at 2200 moved into an infantry attack assisted by four tanks. [passage omitted]

The morning resulted in the continuation of the battles in the same section of the defense, but also in the eastern part. The tanks and recoiless guns in Liporasce and Turic have been shelling Mionica and Lukici since early morning. The morning is passing with heavy artillery attacks. Our fighters are responding only in the cases of the fiercest attacks. Two of our men were killed and eight wounded in the last 24 hours.

Bosnian Serbs Report Muslim Attacks Near Bihac

LD2904190093 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1758 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Bihac, April 29 (TANJUG)—Bosnian Moslem forces on Thursday [29 April] launched infantry attacks on Bosnian Serb positions and civilian facilities in Krupa Na Uni, western part of the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bosnian Serb military sources said.

A [word indistinct] year-old man was badly wounded in the attacks and damage on civilian facilities in the Krupa municipality is considerable.

The sources said Moslems mounted provocations from all available weapons at different intervals along the Bihac front on Thursday, [word indistinct] Bosnian Serbs observed the ceasefire and did not return fire.

Moslems have been launching attacks on the Bihac front for several days.

Lukic Says Serbs Ready To Retaliate If Attacked

AU2904140493 Belgrade VECERNJE NOVOSTI in Serbo-Croatian 29 Apr 93 p 7

[Report by B. Jovanovic: "If It Starts, the Enemy Has Had It"]

[Text] We have taken all the necessary precautions against possible air strikes, and against attacks on the front lines as well. Neither Tudjman on Kaptol [district of Zagreb], nor the people at the foot of Marjan [a hill just above Split], nor those a lot farther away will not get off lightly, because we are going to put a high price on our lives. If they start to bomb us, we will quickly finish our enemies.

As for our opponents in the world, whose power we are aware of, they should not think that they can accomplish anything with 20,000 or 50,000 troops, despite all the technology they have. Mesic's statement "Serb against Serb" will not come true, because we have managed to preserve unity. The world must understand that they must talk honestly to the Serbs, and not with threats and ultimata.

This is what Vladimir Lukic, prime minister of the Serbian republic [in Bosnia-Herzegovina], said. Lukic and his associates spent yesterday in Nis, attending a rally called "Days of the Serbian republic in Nis." He expressed his thanks for all the aid that this region has send to the Serbian republic. He added that they too, were hit hard by the latest sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but he expressed his conviction that the sanctions would not be lifted even in the event of peace and signing of the maps.

If we had not stopped the war on the Drina, it would have spread to Raska. We will consider any attack on the republic of Serbian Krajina as an attack on us. We are for peace, but not under the conditions offered by Lord Owen. The public has been informed of less than one-tenth of the current clashes between Croats and Muslims, because the world is having problems identifying new aggressors. The entire United Nations Protection Forces [UNPROFOR] headquarters is currently doing nothing except travelling between Sarajevo and Mostar and trying to reconcile the Croats and the Muslims, stressed Lukic.

Greeting the guests at a reception in the City Assembly, Stojan Randjelovic, the mayor of Nis, stressed that "when justice and truth are no longer meritorious, it is wise to devise a way of survival. That is why observing the achieved cease-fire, and the speedy continuation of the negotiating process are the only things which make possible the resolving of crucial issues of war and peace in this area."

Hadzic Criticizes Bijeljina Decision

LD2904222393 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2111 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Excerpt] Beli Manastir, 29 Apr (TANJUG)—The negotiating team will most likely leave for Geneva tomorrow with a platform which it received from the republic of Serb Krajina [RSK] assembly. The platform contains our well-known stands and principles which we cannot abandon, RSK president Goran Hadzic told TANJUG's reporter during his tour of Baranja today.

Hadzic made the following statement in connection with the decision of the Serb republic assembly in Bijeljina: As far as the Serbs are concerned Resolution 820 is genocidal, but the Serb republic assembly "should have reached some sort of a compromise."

"In any case, Izetbegovic signed the Vance-Owen plan, but conditionally. The same decision should have been adopted by the serb republic Assembly. The plan should have been signed with certain reservations. We had no right to further aggravate the situation in Yugoslavia and Serbia." [passage omitted]

Hadzic Seeks 'Additional Guarantees'

LD3004150293 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1348 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] Geneva, 30 Apr (TANJUG)—The republic of Serb Krajina [RSK] demands additional guarantees for the Serb people in Krajina from the international community, RSK president Goran Hadzic told TANJUG.

Following talks, which he had with Owen's deputy Ambassador Peter Hall and Ambassador Gerth Arens in the Palais des Nations today, Hadzic specified that "any solution guaranteeing that Croatia will not be able to launch new aggressions" would be accepted.

He recalled that the agreement signed by the Serb side in Geneva on 6 April, did not have such guarantees, as a result of which the RSK parliament did not give it "a go-ahead."

"If the controversial part of the document, which has no provisions for the return of Serb police and administration on territories occupied by Croatia, will provide other safeguards, it can be expected that the RSK assembly would make a decision favoring a peaceful solution," Hadzic said.

He added that despite strict UN Security Council resolutions, the RSK, in the current climate of resolving the crisis in former Yugoslavia, is favoring a peaceful and just solution, which would respect interests of all sides.

Negotiations on the agreement on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 802 will resume tomorrow. The final draft document, which will presented to the RSK assembly for consideration next week, should be presented on Monday.

Prime Minister Valentic Wins Vote of Confidence

LD2904190293 Zagreb HTV Television in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Both chambers of the Croatian Assembly were in session today. Following a several-hour discussion the Chamber of Representatives has passed a vote of confidence in Prime Minister Nikica Valentic's government by a majority vote. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] Prime Minister Nikica Valentic's government received 83 votes for, 19 against, and 15 abstentions, and thus won the confidence of the Chamber of Representatives of the Croatian Assembly. He then took the solemn oath. [passage omitted]

Valentic Briefs Assembly on Economic Situation

AU3004120793 Zagreb VECERNJI LIST in Serbo-Croatian 29 Apr 93 p 2

[Unattributed report on Prime Minister Nikica Valentic speech at the Assembly in Zagreb on 28 April: "The Goal Is Convertible Dinar"]

[Text] Not justifying the possible failures of the government, Croatian Prime Minister Nikica Valentic warned that the stabilization program is based on the realization of financial backing. The essence of the economic problem is the old structure and the internal debt of over $10 billion. He said that all international financial arrangements with Croatia had been frozen, so we cannot count on getting even the small amount of financial aid we expected before. It is a question of different methods of putting pressure on us, but also of our own clumsiness which provides the cause for that. Croatia must, therefore, rely on its own forces and its capital and use them to the maximum to prevent an economic collapse.

Valentic said that we are not entitled to unrealistic hopes and added that the ultimate goal is to stop the decline in production and, if the war does not get any worse, significantly cut inflation in the last quarter of this year. We do not have a reason for defeatism, and this government guarantees that, even in case of certain changes for the worse, Croatia will not undergo a power supply collapse and food shortage.

Valentic mentioned the three anchors of the macroeconomic policy (monetary and fiscal systems, and the policy of salaries), and, as the main measures of the current economic policy, which are being pushed by the government, he spoke about the preparations for the next tourist season and the preparations for spring sowing. The government began implementing the fiscal reform by lowering taxes and broadening the tax base. Tariff concessions along with some other concessions are being created, too. Many privileges that have until now been abused will be abolished. Investment projects (the work on two major traffic routes will begin in two to three weeks) are also a part of the government strategy. The state provided the initial funds of $190 million,

while the domestic concessionaires closed the financial construction providing up to 50 percent of the total work value. Models for the improvement of health service, electric power industry, and the Croatian Rail have also been drafted. All other companies will be subjected to a much stricter financial discipline. A well balanced budget is also an important element, and exceeding its limits would lessen our chances for getting international financial support later on.

For the next assembly session, the prime minister announced a detailed analysis of all forms of transformation of state-owned companies, the government standpoint on privatization, and information about the canceled agreements on transformation and loans that were granted illegally. There will also be some information about providing for the victims of war.

The government will either fail or survive on the issue of social welfare policy, not only because of the increasing social tensions, but also because of the need for this policy in the function of the restructuring of the economy. The government will also endeavor to impose stricter rules for obeying laws without exceptions and to establish a proper law-governed state. He stressed that the ultimate goal is to create a stable and convertible national currency, which will take at least one year. According to the present rise in production and the increase of foreign exchange reserves after the tourist season, it will probably be possible to establish a stable foreign exchange market and adequate foreign exchange reserves as the basis of the convertibility of the national currency. Europe will not accept our standards—we have to accept European standards, and that is why we need the democratization and privatization of media according to the European standards.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Turkey

LD3004151593 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Official talks between Croatian and Turkish delegations, headed by President Franjo Tudjman and Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel, have ended in Ankara. Apart from foreign and defense ministers, high-ranking officials and advisers to President Tudjman and Prime Minister Demirel took part in the talks.

Following the talks, Foreign Ministers Zdenko Skrabalo and Hikmet Cetin have signed an agreement on cooperation between two ministries and an agreement on trade and financial cooperation, which paves the way for Croatia to receive a loan of $100 million. It has been announced that they will sign a friendship agreement. [passage omitted]

It has been announced that, at the invitation of President Tudjman, Prime Minister Demirel will visit Croatia soon. Specific agreements on Croatian-Turkish cooperation will be signed then.

Krajina Army Presents New Magazine

AU3004152993 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Text] [Announcer] The first issue of the Krajina army magazine was presented in the International Press Center in Belgrade. Radovan Pankovic reports.

[Pankovic] The magazine was launched in Knin, and it presents the truth about the struggle of the Serbian people on the territory of the former Croatia. The paper's goal is the truth, and its content is the struggle for the freedom of the Krajina. The messages it carries are humane, said the paper's editor, Jovan (?Canak), while Branko Opacic talked about the concept of the magazine.

[Opacic] Our main idea was simply to make public everything that is being done in this region, and in some way, in addition to all the information that is reaching the world, which contains at least part of the truth, to make accessible information from the source; from where the battle is being waged, and the way in which it is being waged.

[Pankovic] Pointing out the necessity for such a magazine, the custodian of the Belgrade National Museum Nikola Kusovac, said that they can take everything away from us, but they cannot take away our culture and spirit. Stevo Zigon believes that the Serbian people in the Krajina are today experiencing the same days as during the uprisings when they were driving the Turks out of their community, and that because of this, this magazine is absolutely necessary.

Federal

Cosic Suggests Peace Conference to Clinton, Yeltsin

LD2904134493 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1304 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Apr (TANJUG)—Dobrica Cosic, president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, today sent special messages to U.S. President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, TANJUG learned from the office of the president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The special messages to the Presidents of the United States and Russia refer to Dobrica Cosic's diplomatic initiative to convene an international conference to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The idea of one such peace conference was first put forward by the Yugoslav president at a news conference in Belgrade yesterday.

President Cosic To Attend 1-2 May Talks

LD3004092093 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0847 GMT 30 Apr 93

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 30 Apr (TANJUG)—Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic will take part in a two-day meeting of representatives of the three warring sides in former Bosnia-Herzegovina to be held in Athens on 1-2 May. The president's office confirmed this to TANJUG this morning. [passage omitted]

Swedish Soldiers To Replace French in Belgrade

LD2904213893 Stockholm Sveriges Radio Network in Swedish 1445 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Swedish UN soldiers will now replace French UN soldiers in Belgrade. The Swedish Emergency Force will be moved from Zagreb in Croatia to Belgrade in Serbia. The French have decided to withdraw their UN soldiers because it is considered that they could become targets of Serbian revenge actions if there is a military intervention by the West against the Serbs in Bosnia.

Experts Predict Enough Food Despite Embargo

LD2904124393 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1213 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Belgrade, April 29 (TANJUG)—If weather conditions are favourable, Yugoslavia will have enough food to meet its own needs despite the total economic embargo, agriculture experts of the Yugoslav Chamber of Commerce said on Thursday.

They said that sowing has been carried out on over one 1.5 million hectares (60 percent of the planned surfaces).

Spring sowing began in mid-March in conditions of a dramatic shortage of fuel, fertilizers, plant protectimn substances and spare parts.

Last May 30, the U.N. Security Council slapped strict economic and political sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for its alleged involvement in the ethnic and religious war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. New and tougher sanctions were imposed on April 26.

Experts believe that the physical survival of the Yugoslav population depends on the sowing.

The recent warm weather has enabled farmers to plant daily quotas of 100,000 hectares, the Chamber of Commerce said.

The Federal Trade Ministry said on Wednesday that the eleven- month blockade has caused the country to lose 2.5 million dollars in food exports, while two billion dollars will be lost by the end of the year due to the export ban.

Government Extends Mandate of CSCE Mission

LD2904220193 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1816 GMT 29 Apr 93

["Pool" item]

[Text] Belgrade, April 29 (TANJUG)—The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has extended the mandate of the mission of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) until June 28 this year on the condition that all necessary activities on regulating the status of Yugoslavia in that international forum are undertaken in the meantime.

The decision was taken on Thursday at a government session at which a number of issues connected with foreign policy and the economy were discussed, the Federal Information Ministry said.

CSCE observers stationed in the provinces of Kosovo-Metohija (Kosmet) and Vojvodina and the region of Raska (Sandzak) are tasked with facilitating the dialogue between the authorities and representatives of national minorities and monitoring the human rights situation in the areas.

A strong separatist movement of Kosmet's ethnic Albanians, who make up the majority population in the province, has for more than a decade been actively [word indistinct] the formation of a Republic of Kosovo and its subsequent secession from Yugoslavia and merger with neighbouring Albania. Moslems make up about one-half of the population of Raska.

Vojvodina has many national minorities, the largest group being ethnic Hungarians (17 per cent of the province's overall population).

In mid-1992 Yugoslavia was excluded from the work of the CSCE on account of its alleged involvement in the year-old ethnic, civil and religious war in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, although not a single soldier who is a citizen of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been there since May last year.

At the same time, about 60,000 regular Army troops of the breakaway Yugoslav Republic of Croatia are assisting the Bosnian Moslems and Croats in their fight against the local Serbs.

April Inflation Drops to 114.1 Percent

LD2704184193 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1548 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Belgrade, April 27 (TANJUG)—Inflation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in April dropped to 114.1 percent from 225 percent in March, a Yugoslav Information Ministry spokesman told a news conference in Belgrade on Tuesday.

Retail prices in April rose 166,405.8 percent compared with April last year.

The biggest rise of prices was recorded in services—226.8 percent, and the smallest in farm products—58.9 percent. The prices of industrial products increased 103.5 percent.

The costs of living were 96.8 percent higher than in March, and as many as 153,938.3 percent than in April 1992.

Compared to December last year, the costs of living rose 3,981.5 percent.

This month's inflation is the fifth three-digit monthly inflation rate in Yugoslavia since World War Two, preceded with 102 percent last June, 100.6 percent in January, 218.8 in February and 225.8 percent in March.

Serbia

Assembly Appeals to Bosnian Serbs to Reexamine Decision

LD2904180893 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1625 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Apr (TANJUG)—The Serbian Assembly today officially appealed to deputies of the assembly of the Serb republic [in Bosnia-Herzegovina] to reexamine information and outstanding issues and reconsider their decision on the Vance-Owen plan, bearing in mind the interests of the entire Serbian nation.

The appeal is contained in a letter sent by Serbian Assembly Speaker Zoran Lilic to the Serb republic assembly speaker Momcilo Krajisnik. The letter says that the Serbian Assembly "is again expressing its support to the just struggle of the Serb people in the former Bosnia-Herzegovina for their national freedom, equality, and protection of human and civil rights."

Lilic informed Krajisnik that the Serbian Assembly has adopted as its declaration a letter from Cosic, Milosevic, and Bulatovic to the deputies of the assembly of the Serb republic in connection with the Vance-Owen plan.

"In this connection the Serbian Assembly has decided to address deputies of the assembly of the Serb republic, appealing to them to reexamine all information, proposals, and remaining outstanding issues and, bearing the interests of the entire Serbian nation in mind, to reconsider their decision in connection with the signing of the Vance-Owen plan," Lilic's letter to Krajisnik says.

"The People's Assembly of Serbia believes that the policy of peace and resolution of conflicts through political negotiations, not through war, is in the interest of the Serbian nation and therefore it should be given priority," the letter says.

Seselj: Radical Party Rejects Presidents' Letter

AU2904170193 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] *The Serbian Radical Party fully supports the decision of the assembly of the Serbian republic not to accept the Vance-Owen plan and express great regret that there occurred a certain crack in the Serbian patriotic bloc with different approaches to such a serious problem, Party Chairman Vojislav Seselj said at a regular news conference. Serbian Radicals also do not accept the letter the three presidents sent to the Serbian people in the former Bosnia- Herzegovina. Here is a report by Dragoljub Stankic:*

[Begin recording] [Stankic] Vojislav Seselj carefully listed all the points in the three presidents' letter with which the Serbian Radicals do not agree. According to them, in international communications at the highest level, it is completely unacceptable and unprecedented to say that we have been informed about irresponsible statements by some deputies of the Serbian republic's assembly, and therefore we address you. I do not believe, Seselj said, that there is a statesman in the world who would start a serious letter in such a way.

Seselj rejects the proposal to form a three-member delegation to draft rules of procedure, because they will be adopted on the same principle: They would be written by Owen and adopted by ultimatum.

Seselj also rejects the guarantees given that Croatian and Muslim forces cannot enter the Serb-populated regions but that UN troops will do so, on the basis of the experience in Krajina, where French UN troops allowed Croatian troops a swift breakthrough onto Serbian territories. Seselj is of the opinion that there are no guarantees for the free movement of civilians in the regions of Popovo Polje, Grmec, the foot of the Kozara Mountain, or Posavina. It says in the letter, Seselj went on to say, that the Serbian people have been assured 45 percent of the entire Bosnian territory, as if that were something big. It is forgotten, however, that before the war, according to the cadastre, Serbian people owned 64 percent of land. in addition, the territories offered lack any industrial or energy resource potential, Seselj pointed out.

According to Seselj, the solution to make decisions through consensus is unacceptable, because this is why the war broke out in the first place.

Seselj was particularly surprised by the argument that the [Bosnian] Serbs are threatening 10 million citizens of Yugoslavia and that the latter must have some say about their demands.

[Seselj] How are the Serbs from the Serbian republic exposing the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to sanctions? What sanctions have been proclaimed by the Serbian republic on you? None. Our brother Serbs are not exposing us to sanctions. Western forces are exposing us to sanctions with the desire to make us into weapons to strangle the Bosnian Serbs.

[Stankic] The existence of the Serbian republic in the region of the former Bosnia-Herzegovina is a reality that we must all accept, Vojislav Seselj said in conclusion. [end recording]

Sainovic Views Solutions for Bosnia, Sanctions

AU2904160693 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Prime Minister Nikola Sainovic and Deputy Prime Minister Zoran Arandjelovic visited Priboj today. Here is a report by Zoran Zeravcic:

[Begin recording] [Zeravcic] Security in the Priboj commune is rather good. This is what Milic Popovic, chairman of the Priboj commune, said while informing republican representatives on the current situation, problems, and difficulties.

Pointing out that Serbia is doing everything to preserve peace and ensure security to its citizens, Nikola Sainovic mostly spoke about the need to establish peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Serbia's policy is one of continuity. Our stance that one should sign the Vance-Owen plan was not a turnabout in policy, but ensues from the conviction that one should enable all disputed issues to be solved peacefully, Sainovic said and added the following;

[Sainovic] Here, you see, the most recent talks held regarding the situation in the former Bosnia-Herzegovina have nevertheless led to the conclusion that equality and the constituent character of all three peoples must be respected and that all vital questions must be decided upon by consensus. To achieve these conditions, along with the truce—that is, the cease-fire—that was organized with our participation, one should continue the talks with a view to reaching specific solutions on the basis of the Vance-Owen plan along with some necessary corrections to it that ensure an elementary security to all peoples in the region. Another correction should be made to the effect that in those regions where the Vance-Owen maps fail to provide the population with absolute confidence in its security, these regions should be covered by the United Nations until final solutions are found in the future.

[Zeravcic] The Serbian prime minister also spoke about the economic policy under the conditions of harsher sanctions.

[Sainovic] We harbor no illusions that we can completely buffer the impact of sanctions. However, we also have no intention of immediately kneeling down when the sanctions are introduced. These last operational talks were held yesterday and the first (?programs) were selected including the program for the FAP [Priboj Automobile Factory], Zastava [Kragujevac Car Factory], [Loznica] Viskoza Plant, and, generally speaking, enterprises that can not only carry out their own production but also engage other enterprises. There are also programs concerning agricultural irrigation, the electrification of railroads, and other things that make it possible for us to mobilize this vital section of the economy in Serbia. We shall continue to persistently work on this. [end recording]

Montenegro

Assembly Supports Signing Vance-Owen Plan

LD2904220093 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2040 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Podgorica, 29 Apr (TANJUG)—By a majority vote, the Montenegrin Assembly this evening lent its support to the Vance-Owen plan for former Bosnia-Herzegovina concluding that it is a good foundation for the cessation of hostilities and the speedy resolution of conflicts on this territory.

The plan contains solutions which take into consideration the interests of all three nations, and by this also conditions for the affirmation and preservation of the legitimate interests of the Serb people in former Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Montenegrin parliament concluded following a two-day discussion on the consequences of the latest sanctions by the international community.

It was explained that the conclusions of the Assembly are a compromise of assessments, stands, and proposals given by four parliamentary parties—the Democratic Party of Socialists, the Liberal Alliance, the National Party, and the Social-Democratic Party of Reformists.

Only the club of deputies of the Serbian Radical Party in Montenegro fully rejected the conclusions of the republican assembly in connection with new sanctions and the development of the situation after the assembly of Serb republic in Bijeljina had adopted its decision.

The Assembly also lent its full support to the basic stands, efforts, and views presented in a letter from Cosic, Milosevic, and Bulatovic to the assembly of the Serb republic.

Concluding that the Bijeljina decision is causing a further deterioration of the already difficult situation, threatening to bring into question the security and existence of Montenegrin and Yugoslav citizens, the Montenegrin Assembly stresses that the rejection of the Vance-Owen plan was received in Montenegro with regret, which considerably endangers all efforts made so far by Montenegro and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the legitimate interests of the Serb people in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the results achieved so far in the direction of restoring peace.

The assembly is very concerned about the serious consequences which may soon affect Montenegro and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia through the rejection of the Vance-Owen plan.

The Montenegrin Assembly, the conclusions go on to say, resolutely and unambiguously dissociates itself from and opposes all political forces which continue with the policy of advocating war and the resolution of relations in former Bosnia-Herzegovina by force.

The Republic of Montenegro and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as civic constitutional states, cannot accept any religious, political, and national intolerance. Therefore, the assembly vehemently opposes and condemns war crimes, every act of violence perpetrated by one person against another, by one nation against another in former Bosnia-Herzegovina and in former Yugoslavia whoever the perpetrator is, particularly if the consequences are genocide and ethnic cleansing.

The Republic of Montenegro does not want to pursue a policy of confrontation with the international community and is resolutely in favor of a policy of cooperation. Together with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, it has truly been endeavoring to be a factor of peace in the Balkans and in Europe. Therefore, it is essential for Montenegro and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to return to the international community, and for that to happen the sanctions should be abolished.

Federal bodies must take all necessary measures in accordance with the letter of the three presidents [Cosic, Milosevic, Bulatovic] in order that the real interests of the FRY are presented to the international community.

In this context, the Republic of Montenegro will develop its own active diplomatic and political activity with regard to the most important members of the international community with the aim of presenting and reaffirming its own policy and the stands of the FRY.

In real terms, the assembly decided that its multiparty delegations of deputies should establish contact with corresponding political factors in the world.

On a daily basis, federal bodies are expected to take measures aimed at stabilizing the situation and ensuring the peace and security of FRY citizens.

In a separate conclusion, the Montenegrin Assembly pointed out its stand that in the event of the further exacerbation of the situation in the country all assessments and decisions directly concerning Montenegro and its citizens should be adopted with the previous consent of the assembly of this republic.

Finally, the Montenegrin Assembly called on the assembly of the Serb republic to reexamine its decision in Bijeljina and to decide in favor of a solution which, given the seriousness of the present situation, takes into account all reasons and messages contained in the conclusions of the Montenegrin parliament, of the Serbian Assembly and of the letter of the three presidents.

The Montenegrin Assembly will inform the international community about the stands it adopted this evening.

Kosovo

Serbs Prepare 'Colonization' Projects

AU2804183893 Tirana ATA in English 1032 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Tirana, April 28 (ATA)—According to RILINDJA of Kosova, Serbian circles are still preparing plans and projects for the colonization of Kosova with Serbian population. In this context, JEDINSTVO informs that the project for the settlement of 10 thousands Serbs and Montenegrins in the so-called locality Rezina of Kosova is underway. According to the data presented, all preparations have been made, because first of all the said area has become a property of the Serbian state (it is about the arbitrary usurpation of the territory of the Combine "Ereniku"). The plan is over and now this enterprise depends on the Government of Serbia. Statements by a certain Slobodan Milosevic, acting chairman of the juridical property service, are also given. The latter accepts that he has come somewhere from Serbia, as a cadre in that commune, admitting that soon the first 200 lands will be given. This "imported cadre" shows also of the structure of the colonists when he stresses that many Serbian officers and policemen are showing interest to settle in that area.

Tirana Radio Reports Newly Arrived Tanks Near Pristina

AU2904161793 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Over the last 48 hours, a considerable number of Serbian officers are [words indistinct] in Matican of Prishtina. They are equipped with trucks and tanks, whose barrels are pointing toward Prishtina. Yesterday morning, a group of Serbian military personnel behaved provocatively toward the inhabitants of the Xhemail Ibishi district in Prishtina. Three days ago, a special train brought 14 cars full of military personnel to Fushe-Kosova. Of these, eight were disgorged in Fushe-Kosova, whereas six others went away in the direction of Prizren. Some 350 military personnel, who alighted in Fushe-Kosova, were transported by bus in the direction of Prishtina.

On 26 April, four buses with Serbian officers arrived from Serbia in Kosova, at Obiliq. On the same night, three buses with reservists drove to Obiliq in the direction of Milosheve, whereas some hours later the police [passage indistinct].

'Hundreds' of Kosovo Serbs, Montenegrins Armed

AU2804133693 Pristina KOSOVA DAILY REPORT No 81 in English 26 Apr 93

[Unattributed report: "Kosova Serbs Continue Being Armed en Masse"—issued by the Democratic League of Kosova]

[Text] On Saturday and Sunday [24, 25 April], in many Serbian military barracks and police stations in Kosova, Serb and Montenegrin civilians were provided with arms. Thus, a large amount of weapons was distributed Saturday to Serbian volunteers and reservists in Fushe Kosova, a small town 8 km south of Prishtina. Hundreds of persons, many of them civilians, were seen queuing in front of the Serbian police station to get their share of weapons.

On Sunday, the citizens of Kosova's capital, Prishtina, saw Serbian reservists coming out of the Serbian military barracks headquarters in Prishtina with weapons in their hands. Some of them were seen carrying their weapons wrapped in paper bags.

The recent arming of Serbs in Kosova is viewed as a new phase of mobilization of Serbs in the eve of the new sanctions of the Security Council which are due to come into force today.

Over the past three years, many reports on the arming of Serbs and Montenegrins have been publicized. The move started in the villages of Prekalle, Batuse, etc., when civilians were publicly provided with weapons, a move which was to serve as an intimidation for the Albanian people. This was a prelude to massive scale arming by the JNA [Yugoslav Peoples' Army] of Serb population in Bosnia and Croatia.

Presently, there are several Serb paramilitary formations in Kosova, all of them strictly controlled and sponsored by Serbian authorities. These paramilitary units have come to carry out their acts of provocations and criminal in close cooperation with and initialed by the Serbian military and police.

Alongside with the ubiquitous presence in Kosova of the Serbian standing military and police forces, the authorities have organized the reservist formations of police and army, as well as the paramilitary gangs, such as Arkan's "Tigers," "White Eagles," etc. Moreover, the Serb armed civilians have been organized in a specific fashion.

The most recent arming is a further drive towards a thorough militarization of Kosova Serbs and Montenegrins—who make up some seven percent of the population—and maintaining a highly tense situation, menacing an outbreak of open conflict in Kosova.

The Albanians, who make up over 90 percent of the population of Kosova, are unarmed and virtually defenseless.

Democratic League Protests Killings of Albanians

AU2904100693 Pristina KOSOVA DAILY REPORT No. 83 in English 28 Apr 93

["Statement of the Presidency of the Democratic League of Kosova on the Killings at the Border with Albania and Aggravation of the Situation in Kosova"]

[Text] The mounting repression of the Serbian police regime against the Albanians and Kosova has attained alarming dimension. As the international pressure over the situation in Bosnia increases, the alarming movements of military forces, threatening demonstrations of force, military concentrations and fortifications, the mobilization of civilians, the arming of the Serbian population, the aggressivity of the military and police against the unprotected Albanian population, present only the surface manifestation thought which the occupying Serbian regime want not only to focus the attention of its own public opinion in Kosova in this very difficult situation it is in, but what is even worse, the provoke thus an open conflict with the Albanians.

A tragic result of this grave atmosphere is also their unreasonable and barbaric killing of 10 Albanians at the vicinity of the border between Kosova and Albania on 25-27 April 1993. As to the citizens of Albania, the "Federal Government" said that they had violated the border, a reasons for which nobody in the world gets killed, an explanation which speaks itself for the unprecedented brutal nature of this regime.

As to the killing of the two citizens of Kosova, Zenun Rexhepi and Musa Rexhepi, in the vicinity of their village, Baba and Bokes, municipality of Gjakova, perpetrated by extremely aggressive Serbs reservists on 27 April 1993, the occupying authorities did not care even to issue an explanation.

The Presidency of the Democratic League of Kosova [LDK] expresses its indignation and strong protest against such criminal acts of the occupying Serbian armed forces in Kosova. The LDK Presidency condemns these acts of the Serbian authorities and wants to draw the attention of the international institutions and public opinion to the extremely dangerous extend of these moves. The LDK calls on the international community to increase its presence in Kosovo and undertake the necessary steps for the prevention of the conflict outbreak, a conflict which would be much more tragic than the ongoing one in Bosnia.

[Signed] LDK Presidency. Prishtina, 28 April 1993